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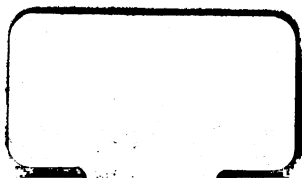
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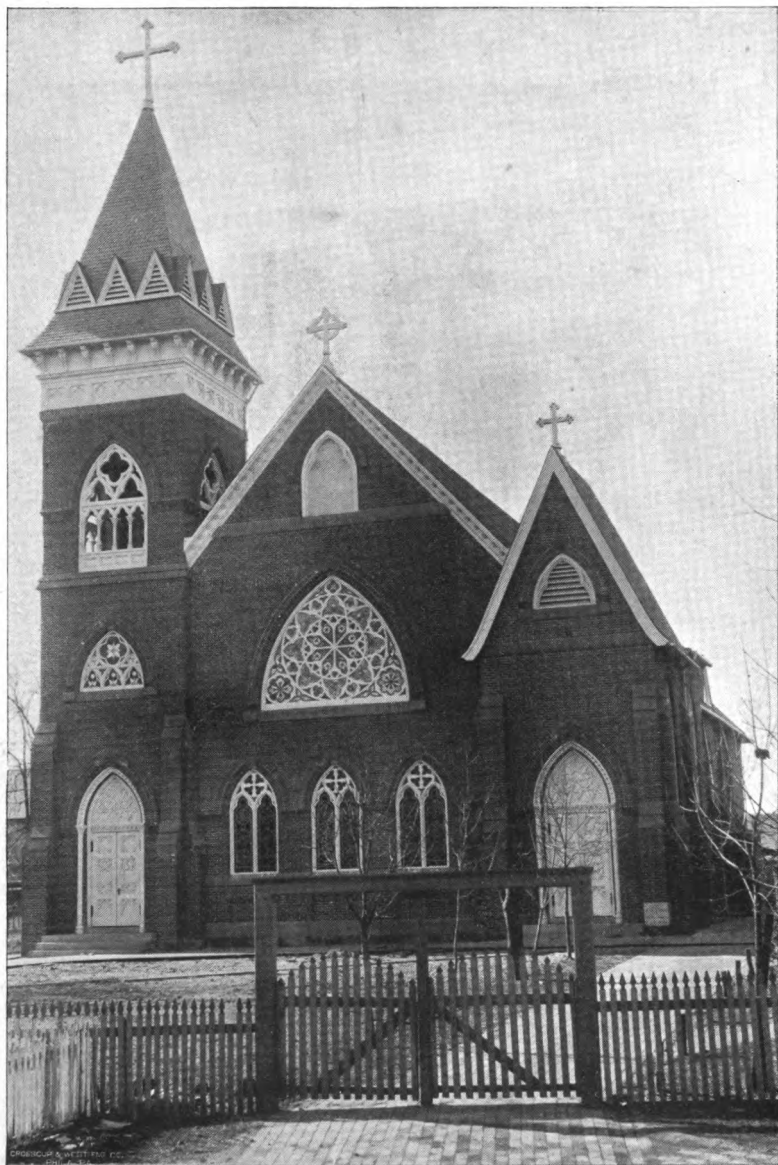
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HISTORY

OF

SAINT ALOYSIUS CHURCH

OF

LITTLESTOWN, PENN'A.

BY

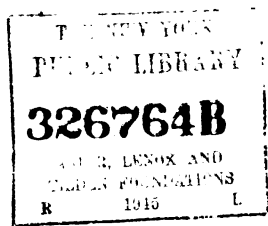
WILLIAM McSHERRY, JR., A. M.



14  
GETTYSBURG:

J. E. WIBLE, PRINTER, CARLISLE STREET (SECOND SQUARE).

1893.



TO  
HONORABLE WILLIAM McSHERRY, LL. D.,  
WHO FOR MORE THAN THREE  
SCORE YEARS AND TEN HAS  
BEEN A WITNESS TO MANY OF  
THE FACTS HEREIN RECORDED,  
THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED AS  
A MARK OF FILIAL AFFECTION,  
BY HIS SON,  
THE AUTHOR.



## PREFACE.

---

**T**HESE pages have been written so that some of the good deeds and the memory of those who have gone may not be forgotten. If but to one they bring back a happy past, or aid another in a future duty, the labor will be well repaid.

It is by recalling the trials, the self-sacrifices, the liberality and the constant faith of our fore-fathers that we best learn how to serve well our God and our fellowman.

Much of this book has been written upon the very ground whereon took place the events therein recorded. There may be some inaccuracies, but yet the fact is true that those of the past did their part well; the present are doing better; and those to come may surpass them all.

The author acknowledges his obligation to John T. Reily, author of "Conowago," and returns to him to Rev. T. O'Leary, S. J., Superior at Conowago, and to Mr. T. J. Stahle, editor of *Gettysburg Compiler*, thanks for courtesies extended.

If anything herein written may honor the founders of our Church, do justice to its present members, or continue its prosperity, my labor will not have been in vain.

WILLIAM MCSHERRY, JR.

HOME-WOOD, GERMANY TOWNSHIP,  
Christmas Eve., 1892.





## SKETCH OF LITTLETOWN.

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The land adjoining Littlestown was the boundary of the disputed tract known as "Digges Choice." In 1727 a warrant was issued by the Maryland authorities for a tract of 6822 acres to John Digges, which embraced Conewago township and part of Germany township, which were then in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, but were supposed to be in the county of Baltimore, in the province of Maryland. This land was surveyed in 1732. Andrew Schreiber and David Young, in 1734, settled on what is now the land of George Basehoar, about three miles from Littlestown.

The Lancaster county Court directed the Monocacy road, leading from Wrightsville, York, Hanover and Littlestown to Frederick, Maryland, to be opened in 1736. Martin Houser, on the 2d of July 1741, and on the same day of July 1743, took out warrants, which were afterwards assigned to Peter Little, to whom a patent for 311 acres was granted by the Penns, September 18th, 1760.

Five years later Peter Little laid out a town on this land, dividing it into 57 lots of 66 feet frontage and having a depth of 264 feet. The purchaser was to build a substantial dwelling house on each lot, at least 18 feet square, within three years from May 1st, 1765. The road opened in 1736 he called King street, and the road leading from Baltimore to Pittsburg (now the Gettysburg and Petersburg turnpike) was called Queen street. In his deeds he calls the town Petersburg; and states that he wishes it to be called so forever. His wishes were not carried

out. Captain Joseph McClellan, in his "Diary of The Pennsylvania Line," says:

"May 26th, 1781. Marched from York at 9 A. M., under the command of Gen. Wayne, and encamped 11 miles on the road to Fredericktown.

"May 27th. The general beat at daylight, and the troops took up the line of march at sunrise, and halted near Peter Littlestown, it being 14 miles.

"May 28th. Marched through Taneytown, and halted upon the banks of Pipe Creek being 14 miles."

The force consisted of 800 effective men, and the troops were on their way to Yorktown, Va. The town grew slowly. In 1797 it contained about 80 houses. In 1800 the population was 250; and the next census it had grown to 287. By the formation of Adams county out of York, in 1800, Littlestown became the oldest town in the new county.

The building of the Gettysburg and Petersburg turnpike road in 1807-14 was an event in the history of the place, making it an important stop for stages and wagons on their route from Baltimore to Pittsburg.

The Littlestown railroad—a line of 7 miles—extending to Hanover, was begun July 4th, 1857 and completed in June following. This gave new life to the town. James Renshaw and George Myers laid out new lots, two warehouses were built, and a new hotel. Business increased and the population grew from 394 in 1850 to 702 in 1860. During the battle of Gettysburg the Union troops passed through the town on their way to battle, while trains of wagons and lines of prisoners kept coming and going. The U. B. Church was turned into a hospital.

Among the distinguished wounded cared for at Littlestown

was General Daniel E. Sickles who had lost his leg at Round Top and who was carried on a stretcher from the field of battle to Littlestown where he was placed on the cars. Col. W. W. Dudley, late U. S. Pension Commissioner, was wounded at Gettysburg and had his leg amputated at the house of Hon. Ephraim Myers, in Littlestown, by Dr. Thomas Kinzer. The National Hotel was also used as a hospital. The land about town, especially that of Hon. Wm. McSherry, was used for several days by Gen. Geary's command as a camping ground; he and his staff, embracing Major Moses Veale, now Health Commissioner of Philadelphia, occupying the family residence as their Headquarters. The fences were burnt, crops destroyed, and fields cut up and damaged.

About a century after it began to exist, Littlestown received legal recognition by being incorporated as a borough by the Court of Adams county, February 23d, 1864. The litigation began August 20th, 1860, by filing a petition for incorporation, which was followed by remonstrances and exceptions. Jan. 2d, 1863, the Court ordered an election to be held on Feb. 28th following, to determine the wishes of the residents of the territory embraced in the proposed borough, and appointed Dr. R. S. Seiss, judge; Dr. E. F. Shorb and Joseph Barker, inspectors. At the election 34 votes were cast in favor of and 28 against the erection of a borough. This was followed by petitions for resurvey by James Renshaw and Wm. McSherry. There were 96 freehold residents in the proposed borough. From 1855 to 1863, about 30 houses were put up near the railroad and the square. The first election was held August 20th 1864, at the "most westerly school house," in the borough. The result of the litigation was that the land of Mr. McSherry was excepted

from the borough limits and that of Mr. Renshaw retained. The walks were dug down, or filled up, as required; and excellent pavements were laid. The next event of importance was the completion of the railroad to the Maryland line in 1871.

Littlestown is located in Adams county, Pennsylvania. The population of the borough proper is 991, and with those adjacent, about 1200. The chief streets, East and West King, and North and South Queen, are well piked; and are 66 feet wide; there are also Lombard and Cemetery streets. The length of the borough is about one mile, and its breadth about three quarters of that distance. The town is compactly built and has many fine residences. Many of the houses are surrounded by beautiful yards ornamented with flowers. The streets are well shaded and the houses and fences are neat and well kept. The stores and public buildings compare favorably with those of the cities. There are two commodious warehouses, the same number of hotels, a fine bank building, a large public school house, a two-story brick Fire Engine house, fully equipped, and an excellent weekly newspaper, "The Adams County Independent." The citizens are thrifty, industrious, and intelligent. All are engaged in some pursuit and find occupation in making cigars, carriages, and the usual avocations. There are five churches in the town the Catholic, United Brethern, Methodist, German Reformed and Lutheran. The country about Littlestown is rolling. The soil is fertile, and the climate healthy. The hospitality of the past has descended to the present citizens; and to their other good qualities they have added an energy which promises to win wealth for themselves and descendants, and prosperity for their town.

## HISTORY OF THE CHURCH.

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1741 to 1800.

More than a century and a half ago, a humble Jesuit left his European home and crossed the ocean to share the labors and trials of those adventurous pioneers, who had left the old world for the new, that he might keep fresh in their minds the faith of their fathers, and comfort them in their sorrows and tribulations. The little log cabin which Reverend William Wapeler, S. J., built in the valley of Conowago, in 1741, although most humble in appearance, was, indeed, a true temple of God. Many weary pilgrims entered this chapel in the wilderness, foot-sore and sick at heart, left who comforted by the hospitality and wise counsel of this pious priest. Among these were the fore-fathers of some of those who now worship at St. Aloysius church at Littlestown, Pennsylvania. From that day even unto this many of their descendants have gone to that sacred spot and in that humble chapel, or its successor, have bent their knee in prayers of thanksgiving for past favors and begged the God of their fathers to bless them and their children as he had blessed those who had gone before them. For nearly fifty years from the building of that little chapel the Catholics about Littlestown went, on Sundays and holidays of obligation, to assist at the sacrifice of the Mass at this the *first* House of God in their midst. And when the old building was replaced by the mag-

nificent stone church of the Sacred Heart, erected upon the same site in 1787, by the Rev. James Pellentz, S. J., they still turned with loving hearts towards Conowago. Even within the present decade, it was not an unusual thing for those who sought God's blessing in marriage to kneel at the feet of some devout Jesuit in that same church in which their parents were married a quarter or a half century ago. Many a proud father and happy mother have brought their infant child from Littlestown to Conowago to have the waters of baptism poured upon its head; and have the record of a century continued by its name. And when the hand of death comes, many a sad funeral train passes from Littlestown to the cemetery of Conowago, that the loved dead may mingle with the sacred dust of its ancestors.

It is a common occurrence for members of the Littlestown, as well as other congregations, to come to Conowago and join with the parishioners in the celebration of Mass on Sundays and great festivals. There is scarcely one family in either congregation that has not some relation, or acquaintance, in the other; and thus even to this day the mother and daughter are closely united, almost as much so as before their separation. As early as 1784 mass was said in the house of Joseph Flauth, near Littlestown. There were a good many Catholics living in the vicinity and the good Jesuits at Conowago,—seven miles distant—frequently came here. The most active of these was Father James Pellentz, S. J. Thus the congregations of Littlestown and Conowago were intimately associated, and continue so.

The territory about Littlestown received its name from the nationality of the original settlers who were chiefly Germans. About this period the Irish were also locating here, and Ger-

many township was becoming well settled. The Catholics of both nationalities, led on by their zealous pastor, were eager to have a permanent place of worship. Two places were contesting for this great honor. On the 5th of February, 1791, Mathias Baker and Mary, his wife, of the town of Petersburg (alias Littlestown), in Germany township, county of York, and State of Pennsylvania, conveyed to Patrick McSherry, Joseph Flauth and Henry O'Hara, trustees for the Roman Catholic congregation of Littlestown, "for the good purpose of assisting and establishing a Roman Catholic Church or Chapel at Littlestown, and for the further sum of five shillings did grant and convey a certain piece or parcel of ground adjoining the north end of the lots of Littlestown, beginning at the town alley opposite to widow Smith's lot, No. 13, and running thence to the land of Patrick McSherry; thence with said land — perches, thence by Mathias Baker's other land to the town alley, thence with the same to the place of beginning, so as to include one full acre," "to the only profit, use, benefit and behoof of the congregation aforesaid forever, and to nor for no other use, intent, or purpose else whatever to be used and disposed of for the use aforesaid as two-thirds of the members of said congregation shall appoint and determine."

On the same day the said trustees appeared before R. McIlhenny, Esq., a Justice of the Peace and acknowledged that they held said lot in trust.

"This deed was made over for the use of the Catholic Church and afterwards it was agreed to sell the property for the use aforesaid and it was sold and as the deed was not recorded the grantor conveyed the property to the purchaser and this deed was made void by defacing the names and seals" R. M.



The above is written on the deed.

The deed from Joseph Flauth and Mary, his wife, of Germany township, is also dated February 5th, 1791, by which, in consideration of the sum of one hundred and ninety pounds in gold or silver, they conveyed "a certain house and lot of ground in Germany township and county of York, lying on the westward of the road leading from Petersburg to Baltimore, and bounded as followeth: Beginning at the town alley adjoining Joseph Stealy's lot and running southward with the great road aforesaid, seven perches and a half; thence westward by other land of Joseph Flauth, sixteen perches; thence northward, seven perches and a half to the alley aforesaid; thence with the alley eastward, sixteen perches, to the place of beginning; containing three quarters of an acre; to Patrick McSherry, Mathias Baker and Henry O'Hara, trustees of the Roman Catholic congregation of Littlestown, their heirs and successors to the only use, benefit and behoof of the Roman Catholic congregation of Littlestown for ever, and to nor for no other use, intent or purpose whatever; to be converted into a Roman Catholic church, or chapel, and burying ground, for the congregation aforesaid to be known and distinguished by the name of the Roman Catholic Church or chapel of Littlestown, and to remain for that purpose and use forever, unless otherwise agreed upon by two-thirds of the members of the congregation aforesaid." The trustees named accepted the trust on the same day.

Here was a very nice question to be settled in the very outset. The Baker lot was on King street where Lana Hahn's house and the Lutheran parsonage are built, and, in many respects, a more desirable location than the Flauth lot. The difficulty was adjusted by substituting Mathias Baker for Joseph

Flauth as one of the trustees and accepting Mr. Baker's offer of his lot, which was afterwards sold for \$60.06; and thus the home of Mr. Flauth became the first Catholic Church of Littlestown, in 1791. The house upon the lot was originally a hotel, and was at once changed so as to be adapted for the higher purpose for which it was to be used. It stood on the corner of the alley and Baltimore street where the Catholic parsonage is now located. It was built of logs, and was two stories high. It remained standing until 1840, when it was taken down and converted into a house by Joseph Ocker, Sr., which is still standing. There is no record of the dedication of the church; but as Fr. Pellentz was the Superior at Conowago, and also at this time the Vicar-General to Bishop Carroll, and the first pastor at Littlestown, it is most likely that he dedicated the new church. It is supposed that the church received at this time its present name St. Aloysius. From 1791 to 1800 the charge was served from Conowago by Fathers Pellentz, Demetrius A. Gallitzen and F. X. Brosius. On October 2d, 1791, Henry O'Hara and James McSherry, surviving trustees, conveyed the church property unto the Rt. Rev. John Carroll, "which house is since (1791) converted into a chapel"—he being Bishop of Baltimore. Patrick McSherry died in 1795 and Mathias Baker about 1798.

The following list is made up from an old account book of Patrick McSherry who was a merchant in Littlestown in 1791, and as the parties named came to the village to purchase their merchandise, it is likely they also attended church there; so I give it as partial list of the first Catholic congregation of Littlestown; as their names are Catholic:

Baker, Mathias	Gallagher, Hugh	Rider, Jacob
Bartholomew, John	Hagen, James	Rifle, Melchoir
Bamgardner, Jacob	Hembler, Christian	Rifle, Mathias
Connor, Henry	Little, Andrew	Sponseller, Andrew
Collins, Joseph	McSherry, Patrick	Stagers, Henry
Collins, Denis	McSherry, Barnabas	Storm, John
Elseroad, France	McSherry, Hugh	Shilling, Conrad
Elseroad, Nicholas	McGumsey, James	Topper, Andrew
Emick, Nicholas	Owings, William	Weaver, Jacob
Flaut, Joseph	O'Hara, Henry	Weems, John
Fink, Adam	Owings, Richard	
Gallagher Michael	Plunkert, Patrick.	

## FEMALES.

McSherry, Catharine	Flauth, Mary	Baker, Mary
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## 1800 to 1825.

The year 1800 still found the Littlestown congregation attached to Conowago, and the history of the latter is a part of the former.

Among the clergy at Conowago from 1800 to 1825 are the following who were likely attendants at Littlestown: F. X. Brosius, D. Stanislaus Cerfoumont, John Nicholas Mertz, Lewis DeBarth, Mathew Lekeu, Francis Roloff, P. J., Dwin, Adam Marshall, M. Rautzan, V. P. Mayerhoffer, Adam Britt, and Wm. O'Brien. It will be remembered that while many of the priests were friendly to the Jesuits but few of them at Conowago were members of the society until about 1815, owing to the small number of members in the United States at that time.

In 1803 the good people of the Littlestown congregation be-

gan to improve their church property by putting a new roof on the church and surrounding the grounds with a paling fence. The entire cost and expenses amounting to \$150.95. This was provided for by disposing of the Mathias Baker lot for \$60.06, and also a stable, which formerly stood on the church lot, for \$24 thus realizing \$84.06; so the little congregation was left with a debt of \$66.89. This indebtedness must have been soon paid, for much more extensive improvements were soon after planned and carried to completion. The following is a copy of a subscription paper in my possession:

We promise to pay to Henry Fink, Joseph Hemler, Jacob Rider, Doctor E. Davis, James McSherry or either of them the sums annexed to our names for repairing the Catholic church in Littlestown. September 9, 1818.

R. L. Barth, \$50.00; Henry Fink, \$18.00; Joseph Hemler, \$10.00; Jacob Rider, \$12.00; E. Davis, \$15.00; James McSherry, \$30.00; Joseph Riddlemoser, \$2.00; Christie Dopper, \$3.00; Joseph Rider, \$6.00; Abr. Diffendal, \$5.00; Sam. Diffendal, \$2.00; Mathias Dopper, \$2.00; Billy Exiferius, \$1.00; Paul Rider, \$10.00; Benjamin Fink, \$6.00; Jacob Koon, \$3.00; A. Will for wife, \$5.00; Andrew McSherry, \$2.00; John Arentz, \$8.00; John Norbeck, \$4.00; Henry Cunseman, \$2.00; Benjamin Butler, \$2.00; Edward Lynch, \$5.00; John Stine, \$5.00; Rev'd Adam Marshall, \$5.00; Henry Althoof, Sr., \$1.00; Denis Cunnaghan, \$1.00; Theodore Eck, \$5.00; J.(no) O.(wings), \$1.00; Mrs. Murphy, \$3.00; Marg't King, \$1.00; Peter Overbaugh, \$4.00; Henry Stonebreaker, \$5.00; Anthony Rider, \$5.00; Joseph Fink, \$2.00; David Fink, \$5.00; Jacob Fink, \$1.00; John Lilly, \$5.00; John Piet, \$5.00; Richard Brawner, \$1.00; Joseph A. Shorp, \$5.00; Peter Topper, \$1.00; Michael

Tiernan, \$10.00; Mr. Lendre, \$5.00; Joseph —, \$1.50; John Eline, \$2.00; Rich'd Moony, \$1.00; Jas. A. Shorb, \$5.00; John Eline, \$2.00; Augustin Schneider, \$3.00; Richard Coale, \$5.00; John Shorb, Sr., \$5.00; Samuel Lilly, \$5.00; Henry Fink, Jr., \$5.00; Jacob Delone, \$1.00; Joseph Hilt, \$2.00; Henry Kuhn, \$1.00; Jacob Riddlemoser, \$3.00; Mrs. Zimmer, \$1.00; And'w Dopper, Sr., \$1.00; Nichl Umstead, \$2.00; Peter Arthen, \$1.00; Jacob Will, \$2.00; Nace Adams, \$3.00; Mrs. Shorb, \$3.00; Blobery Noel, Sr., \$1.00; And. Dopper, Sr., \$1.00; Peter Dopper, \$1.00; Blobery Noel, Jr., \$1.00; M. Frankhouse, 50c.; Henry Althoff, Sr., \$5.00; John Kase, \$2.00; Theodore Eck, \$1.00; Jacob Eline, \$1.00; Sam'l Baumgardner, \$2.00; George Wivel, \$1.00; Henry Eckenrode, \$1.00; Jacob Mathias, \$5.00; Andrew McSherry, \$1.00; Samuel Wills, \$1.00; Jacob Rider, \$6.00; David Hoover, \$1.00; Joseph Bartley, 50c.

The original amount of the subscription as shown by the list was \$234.50. The amount must have been encouraging, for the next year the proposed work was commenced. Father Lewis De Barth, who was the pastor, was the first to pay his subscription which also was the largest. The trustees were active and consisted of the above named solicitors,—excepting Jacob Rider who died and was succeeded by Paul Rider.

As near as I can gather from receipts, &c., the improvements consisted of building a brick addition to the church. 8900 bricks were purchased at \$6.50 per 1000, and 5000 laths at \$2.50 per 1000. John Sohn received \$210 for the carpenter work; and Abraham Eckert laid the brick and did the plastering. He charged \$1.25 per 1000 for the brick-work; and refers to plastering "two long sides each 62 yards" at 2 cents a yard, front and back gable balcony, new part, small entry and small room.

His bill was \$60, but he settled for \$50—likely giving \$10 for subscription. Joseph Rider received 75c. a day for 15 days attending the masons and \$1.00 per day for 4 days for painting. The total cost of the repairs was \$662.39. The work was not completed until 1821. The church was 35x25 feet. In November of 1819 an organ was purchased for the sum of \$111. The money was raised by James McSherry and Joseph Rider giving their note to John McConaughy and Thaddeus Stevens. The energetic ladies of the congregation, especially Mrs. Sarah Will, were active in soliciting subscriptions to pay off the note and by April 18th, 1820, \$36 had been raised, and some time afterwards \$17 additional.

On April 5th, 1821, the trustees examined James McSherry's accounts; and the pastor L. Barth with them approved of the same and found that the church was indebted to Bank for Eckert, \$40.00; to McSherry, \$33.12½; Dr. E. Davis, \$45.10½; Jos. Hemler, \$39.66; A. & G. Will, \$4.66½; David Fink, \$4.00; Paul Rider, \$3.00; balance on church, \$169.55½; note at bank, balance due on organ, \$58.00; total, \$227.55½.

A novel way was taken to pay the church debt. A list of the members of the congregation was made out and a tax was laid. James McSherry was taxed \$35 more than his subscription, (\$30) and in many cases the tax doubled the original subscription.

The plan was successful. After the treasurer and his sister, Sarah (Will), had provided for the organ debt by giving their note (the note was finally paid July 2d, 1830) the church debt was reduced by collections subscriptions, &c., until April, 1833, the balance was only \$63.19 and this was advanced by James McSherry which was practically having no indebtedness. The Sunday col-

lections varied from 19 cents to 91 cents during this period. The pew system was introduced about this time but does not appear to have been compulsory. The following are the only pew holders so far as I can find any record.

Joseph Hemler, Sr., James McSherry, and Dr. Ep. Davis. The salary of the Priest was paid out of the collections and by subscription. Mass was said only once a month.

The following list shows the names of the head of families of the congregation about this time, 1823, and the amount of tax assessed on each. The names number 86 and the tax amounts to \$173.50.

John Arents, Sr., \$2.00; John Arents, Jr., \$1.00; Jacob Arents, \$1.00; Joseph Arents, \$1.00; Jacob Baumgartner, Sr., \$4.00; Jacob Baumgartner, Jr., \$1.00; Jno. Baumgartner, \$1.00; George Brown, 50c.; Ben. Butler, —; George Becker, \$1.00; Mrs. Jas. Collins, \$1.00; Dr. Eph. Davis, \$10.00; Abr. Divendall, Sr., \$2.00; Abr. Divendall, \$1.00; Sam'l Divendall, \$2.00; David Divendall, \$1.00; Christian Dopfer, \$1.00; Andrew Dopfer, Sr., \$2.00; Peter Dopfer, \$1.00; Joseph Dopfer, \$1.00; Anthony Dopfer, \$1.00; Isaac Davis, 50c.; Moses Dopfer, \$1.00; Jacob Eckenrode, \$2.00; John Eline, \$1.00; John Eline, \$1.00; Henry Eck, \$1.00; Jacob Eline, \$1.00; David Fink, \$4.00; Anthony Fink, \$2.00; David Fink, of Anthony, \$1.00; Henry Fink, Jr., \$1.00; Joseph Fink, \$1.00; Jacob Fink, \$1.00; Joseph Flauth, 50c.; — Felia, \$1.00; Joseph Hemler, Sr., \$15.00; Joseph Hemler, Jr., \$1.00; Christian Hemler, \$1.00; Jacob Hemler, \$1.00; Mrs. David Hoover, \$1.00; Joseph Henry, \$1.00; Mrs. Hughes, \$5.00; Mrs. Hughes and Mrs Spalding, \$3.00; Kellenberger, \$1.00; Jacob Koon, \$2.00; Henry Kuhn, \$1.00; John Kase, \$1.00; Henry Kase, \$1.00; Peter Kase, \$1.00; Bar-

bara Kase, \$1.00; Peter Kase, Jr., \$1.00; Mrs. Leckner, \$1.00; James McSherry, \$35.00; Patrick McSherry, \$1.00; Andrew McSherry, \$1.00; Jas. McSherry, of Jno., \$1.00; John Mathias, \$2.00; Mrs. Murphy, \$1.00; Joseph Miller, \$1.00; Blasus Noel, Sr., \$1.50; Michael Noel, \$1.00; John Norbeck, \$1.00; Paul Rider, \$3.00; Joseph Rider, \$2.00; Jacob Rider, Jr., \$1.50; Jno. Rider, \$1.00; Joseph Riddlemoser, \$1.00; Jacob Riddlemoser, \$1.00; Andrew Riffle, 50c.; Henry Riffle, \$1.00; Jacob Ramsey, \$1.00; John Shorb, Sr., \$5.00; John Shorb, of Anthony, \$10.00; Peter Shenfelter, \$2.00; Jos. A. Shorb, \$1.00; Augustin Schneider, \$1.00; Andrew Shoenebrook, \$1.00; Joseph F. Smidt, 50c.; John Stine, \$2.00; Peter Sommers, \$1.00; Sarah Will, \$2.00; Jacob Whitman, \$1.00; Mrs. Wyrick, \$1.00.

#### 1825 TO 1850.

The beginning of the year 1825 found Frs. De Barth and Lekeu the resident priests at Conowago, and they in turn held service at Littlestown. The next year they were joined by Fr. Nicholas Mertz, who remained about three years. In 1828 Fr. De Barth left Conowago and the same year Revs. C. Paul Kohlman and Michael Dougherty came there. The trustees at Littlestown this year were Joseph Hemler, Senior, Dr. Eph. Davis, James McSherry, Joseph Rider, and Joseph Fink. Fr. Lekeu became the attending priest at Littlestown on the leaving of Fr. De Barth, although his place was supplied from time to time by other priests among them Frs. Kolhman and Dougherty. Father Michael Dougherty is the attending priest in 1831. Among the new names of members of the congregation about this time are John Becker, Maurice Budy, Anthony Bricker, Hannah Brown, Charles Canady, James Davis, John Grover,



Mrs. Gulden, Henry Hemler, Wm. Kuhns of Henry, Patrick Kelly, Andrew Little, Mrs. Weams Lease, Wm. Lansinger, Jacob Marshall, Michael R. Nusser, Mary Orndorff, Sebastian O'Bold, Christian Riddlemoser, Caspar Shaenebrook, James Shultz, John Staup, Thos. Simpson, Thos. Simpson, Jr., Eliza Simpson, Henry Spalding, Teresa —, Samuel Weirick.

Fr. Dougherty received for his services from May 1831 to May 1832 \$18.94. This was paid by Jacob Baumgardner, Sr., \$2.00; Jacob Baumgardner, Jr., \$3.00; Dr. Jos. Shorb, \$3.00; James McSherry, \$5.00; Widow Rider, \$1.00; Jno. Shorb, \$2.00; Mary Shriver, .94c.; Sarah Will, \$1.00; Mrs. Hughes, \$1.00. The renting of pews appears to be in full operation and James McSherry pays \$8.00 per year and agrees to pay \$2.00 of this amount each year towards Fr. Dougherty's salary. Service is held at Littlestown on the 3rd Sunday of the month and Fr. Dougherty is the Pastor.

No sooner have the congregation gotten out of debt before they again contemplate not only improvements but a new church. This time the subscription list reads: "We and each of us do promise to pay to Dr. Joseph Shorb or Henry Spalding the several sums annexed to our names to be applied by them in aid of erecting a Catholic Church in Littlestown on the lot held in trust for said congregation. Witness our hands this day of August, 1838." On the opposite page is written: "I approve of the proposed undertaking to build a church in Littlestown and recommend it to the generous support of the public. Given at Conowago this 8th of Sept. 1838. Francis Patrick Kenrick, Bp., &c." The amount subscribed was \$2264.34.

While this undertaking was in progress the generous Catholics were liberally contributing towards another charitable es-

tablishment as appears from the following : "We the subscribers members of the congregation of the church of St. Aloysius, in Littlestown, Adams county, do promise to pay to the Philadelphia Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo the several sums set opposite our names, Feb. 17th, 1839." This is signed by 35 persons and the amount is \$88.00. The following is the Bishop's reply :

"*Dear Sir :* I hasten to make my grateful acknowledgments for your favor with the handsome enclosure of your donation and those of several other benefactors of the congregation of Littlestown. I have handed the whole to the treasurer of the seminary who will make the due acknowledgment in the list published in the *Herald*. Please to accept my warmest thanks, with assurance of high personal regard.

Your faithful friend and servant in Xt.,

†FRANCIS PATRICK KENRICK, BP., &c.

PHILA., May 27th, 1839.

JAMES McSHERRY, ESQ."

During the year 1835, and likely until 1840, Mass was said on the third Sunday of the month at Littlestown, and beginning with the last named year, twice a month. In the Spring of 1840 the building of a new church was begun. Rev. Michael Dougherty was the pastor, Dr. Joseph A. Shorb, Henry Spalding, Joseph Fink, John Shorb, Joseph Riddlemoser, Andrew Little and Jacob Baumgardner were the trustees. Dr. Shorb was the president, Henry Spalding, the secretary and James McSherry the treasurer. There were three proposals for building :

	MOUL.	ORRNDORFF.	CLAPSADDLE.
Carpenter,	\$1,390	\$1,625	\$1,600
Bricks,	400	400	400
Mason,	340	340	340
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$2,130	\$2,365	\$2,340
Carpenter extra,	130		130
Mason       "	60		60
Painting,	26		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$2,346		\$2,530

None of the proposals were accepted. The mason work was given to Ephraim Swope at \$250, and the extra work amounted to \$64.85. Conrad Moul did the carpenter work for which he received \$336.50; and Wm. Otter was the plasterer. Most of the work began in September, 1840. The lumber was hauled from York by wagons. Joseph A. Shorb and Henry Spalding were the building committee. The corner-stone was laid June 3d, 1841, as appears from the parchment found therein on the tearing down of the church, of which the following is a copy:

"D. O. M.

"In honorem Deiparæ ac D. Aloysii Gonzaga.

"Angularis hic lapis Gregorio XVI, Petri sedem tenente; Illmo. ac Rmo. D. D. Henrico Conwell Episcopo Philadelphię; Illmo. ac Rmo. D. D. Francisco Patricio Kenrick, ejus Coadjutore et Diocœsis Administratore substituto Episcopo Arathensi, et Rev. Dmo. Mich. Dougherty, S. J., Rectore hujus ecclesiae.

In civilibus,

Joanne Tyler Fœderatorum Statuum Præsidi; Davide Porter Pennsylvaniae Gubernatore; Curantibus ædituis, Josepho A. Shorb, H. Spalding, Josepho Fink, Joanne Shorb, J. Riddle.

moser, Andrea Little, Jacob Baumgartner, et Jacobo McSherry, Thes., et Gulielmo Guinn, Sec.,

Benedictus et pasitus fuit

a Rev. Dno. Phil. Borgna, D. D. S. Theol. Prof. in Seminario Sta. Maria. ad Montes, assistantibus Rev. Joanne McCaffrey ejusdem Sem. et Collegii Præsides ac Superiores, quique etiam ad populum concionatus est, admodum Rev. Dno. Math. Lecue Superiore, S. J., pro districto Conowago; Rev. Phil. Antonio Sacchi, S. J., Patricio Corry Collegii Sta. Mariæ ad Montes Professore, et Francisco Kendeler.

"Die Junii III, A. D., 1841."

The following were found in the copper box of the corner-stone: a silver dollar of 1799, a half dollar of 1836, a quarter of a dollar of 1839, and a ten cent piece of 1840; a number of religious tracts, New York Freeman's Journal, Herald, and Metropolitan Catholic Almanac of 1839.

The collection taken on the day of laying the corner-stone amounted to \$30.88. The work progressed rapidly and on the 26th of June, 1842, the church was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Dr. Francis P. Kenrick, Bishop of Philadelphia. The amount collected on that day was \$47.84. The total amount collected up to and including June 27th, 1842, was \$2,501.56, and the amount paid out, \$2,536.47½. This is a most creditable showing for the managers and contributors and evidences prudence and good management. The entire cost of the church was \$3165.87¾ up to March 23rd, 1846, and the receipts to that date were \$3165.67¾, balance due treasurer 19¼ cents. The treasurer's book shows every cent and fraction of a cent received and paid, and date of receipt, as well as date of payment, and to whom paid.

William Lansinger made the altar for which he received \$75, the painting was \$15 and the entire amount was about \$100.

It appearing in 1842 that the original subscription was not sufficient an assessment was laid on the members as had been done in 1819. It amounted to about \$249.25. About the same time, an additional subscription was taken. Oct. 27th, 1843, a part of the old church was sold to Joseph Ocker for about \$50, and a part to David King for about \$29; the whole bringing \$89.00. The building was 60 by 40 feet. The centre aisle was 6 feet wide and the two side aisles 2 feet 6 inches each; the pews were 7 feet 1 inch by 2 feet 10 inches, and 3 feet 2 inches high. There were 16 pews in a row which, made 64 pews, each holding 6 persons; so the church seated 384 persons. There were 12 windows 10 feet by 5, and the glass was 6x8, 5 feet from the floor. The basement was 8 feet clear in height 10 feet of the length was for sacristy and sanctuary. The aisle from pews to the communion rail was 5 feet 8 inches. The gallery for the choir was over the entrance to the church. The church was surmounted with a Roman cupola.

About the end of the year 1843 Fr. Dougherty was recalled from Conowago, and Rev. Joseph Roger Dietz became the Pastor at Littlestown. In March 1843 an effort was made to obtain a resident priest at Littlestown as appears from the following outlines of a letter written by James McSherry to Bishop Kenrick. Although this letter was not sent it is here given for its historical data.

LITTLESTOWN, January 5th, 1844.

*Right Rev'd Sir*—When I wrote you in March last we then had church once a month, on Sunday being supplied from Conowago by the Rev'd Mr. Dougherty. The congregation were

anxious that we should have a resident clergyman on account of having church more frequently and also that the priest might be here more of his time to instruct the children in the Catechism. Your answer then was that you could not supply us then, that you were then without a priest whom you could send us, that you hoped for an increase of clergymen, that you regretted exceedingly that it was out of your power to meet our wishes at present. We are now without a supply from Conowago as Fr. Lekeu and Rev'd Mr. Dougherty have both been called from Conowago and Fr. Dietz has to attend Gettysburg, the Mountain Church, Paradise and York each one Sunday in the month so that no Sunday but the 5th in the month would be left for us. There was a meeting of some of our congregation and they agreed to send Mr. Henry Spalding and Dr. Guinn to call on the Rev'd Mr. Zacchy at Conowago to know if we could be supplied from that place or if not we must again call on your Reverence to send us a priest if you possibly can do so. Rev'd Mr. Zacchy stated to Messrs. Spalding and Guinn that he would also write to you on the subject favorable to our application to you. In my former letter to you I mentioned that as your Reverence had consented that the Mt. St. Mary's College and Emmitsburg should have the services of the Rev'd Mr. Miller out of your diocese whether the consent of the Arch-bishop could not be obtained by your Reverence from him if we could procure the consent of Rev'd Mr. Flaut (who was formerly of this diocese) to agree to attend us here, from here one or two Sundays in the month to attend the church at Westminster if the congregation at Westminster can obtain the consent of Rev'd Mr. Nicholas Zocchy of Taneytown who formerly attended that congregation."

The above is in the hand-writing of James McSherry. The following is a copy of the letter sent :

"JAN'Y 5th, 1844.

"BISHOP KENRICK of Philadelphia.

*"Right Rev'd Sir:* As we cannot be supplied by a Priest from Conowago we must again apply to your reverence to supply us with one. There was a meeting of some of the members of our congregation on Monday last, who appointed Mr. Henry Spalding and Dr. Guinn to go to Conowago and consult with Rev. Mr. Zacchy on the subject. They did so, and he agreed with them that we should again make application to you for one, and he said he would also write you in favor of our application. He seems to wish that if we could get a priest to reside here that he would like to give Gettysburg up to him, but we do not know how that would answer. If we could get one here, he might perhaps get Westminster to attend part of the time, or Gettysburg, as you should think best. Mr. Spalding and Dr. Guinn will meet the members of the congregation to-day, as they had agreed to adjourn to meet to-day, they will then write out a statement of the situation of our congregation and the prospects of having a resident priest if possible. They will I expect be prepared to write by next Monday or Tuesday's mail.

Very respectfully yours,

JAMES MCSHERRY."

The following was written but not sent with the above letter :

"Could we obtain your consent to apply to Rev'd Mr. Flaut of Emmitsburg Mountain church to know if he could attend us, if he could obtain the consent of the Arch-bishop, as they have now Rev'd Mr. Miller, who was of your diocese and who you permitted to attend there at Mt. St. Mary's College.

"This is only suggested in case you should not have one to send us who you think would suit our congregation."

MESSRS. H. SPALDING, W. GUINN, JAMES MCSHERRY

"*Gentlemen*—I regret that it is not in my power to provide the congregation of Littlestown with a priest. I shall gladly do so when an opportunity will be afforded. The arrangement which you suggest is not practicable. In the mean time the members of the congregation should pray that God may send laborers into his vineyard.

With great respect I remain, Gentlemen,  
Your Obed't Serv. in Xt.,

PHILA. Jan. 10, 1844.

†FRANCIS PATRICK, Bp. Phila.

Michael R. Nusser was the first organist in the new church. He served up to about 1845 and received \$25 salary a year. Among the choir at this date were Catharine Davis (Mrs. Grover) Mary and Kitty Gray and Delia Grate. John Eline was the first sexton after the new church was built.

Father Dietz began the records at Littlestown,—prior to 1844 entries of baptisms and marriages were made in the records at Conowago. The first entry is the baptism of Charles Augustus Sneeringer, son of Pious Sneeringer, and Elizabeth Ann Brothers his wife, Feb. 28th, 1844. The first marriage is that of Aloysius Groft to Sarah Reek, April 7th, 1844. Samuel Baumgartner succeeded Mr. Nusser as organist in 1844. The following interesting letter shows the needs of the choir at that time.



PINEY RUN, CARROLL COUNTY, MD., Sept. 1st, 1844.

TO DR. JOS. SHORB, JOHN SHORB, JAS. MCSHERRY, HENRY SPALDING, JOS. FINK, CAPT. LITTLE AND JABOB BAUMGARTNER TRUSTEES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN PETERSBURG, PA.

*Gentlemen:* Allow me to invite your attention to two subjects which I feel confident will be remedied so soon as they fall under your observation: the first is a kneeling bench for the choir, the organ loft is not supplied with one for the benefit of the singers. The expense of procuring one will be far less than the benefit. The second is a want of hymns for the service, you want a communion hymn, for which get "Jesus Saviour of my Soul" (as sung by Mrs. French), and other hymns which are printed in occasional numbers as your own fancy may suggest, together with "Hail Heavenly Queen" for the seasons of the year not contained in the Walter collection, such as Sound the Loud Timbrel, St. Augustine to his Sister, Strike the Harp. For particular wants consult the organist.

Yours respectfully,

S. BAUMGARDNER."

Father Dietz received a salary of \$120; the organist \$30. There were 56 pews, and they were supposed to rent for \$247.-89½, and the net balance was estimated \$86.24½.

After the old church was torn down and the new built much inconvenience was sustained by reason of the peculiar shape of the front approach. A small angle of ground belonging to the U. B. Church, which adjoined the Catholic burying ground lay immediately in front of the new Catholic Church. This inconvenience was removed by an application to the Court for a road to the church. The petition was granted, and in September, 1846, a road was opened "from a locust tree near the land of the

Catholic burying ground in Littlestown to the Gettysburg and Petersburg Turnpike Road." Commencing at a locust tree standing nearly on the line bounding said burying ground opposite the front door of the new Catholic Church in Littlestown and running from said locust tree to intersect said turnpike at or near the brick house at present occupied by Widow Bishop. Sept. 22d, 1846, report confirmed and road ordered to be opened 20 feet wide, F. 228.

From 1844 to 1849 Father Dietz was the regular pastor. Fr. Dietz left Feb. 1846, but returned. Among the priests who attended there during these years were Revs. Milesius Gibbons, J. B. Cattani, F. X. Denecker. Mass was said twice a month during this time. He whose life began before the first congregation had been formed, who had seen the first church built, who for more than a half century had been its faithful supporter and friend, was borne from that Holy Edifice in which he loved to commune with his God, to his resting-place among the humble graves of those with whom he had passed his youth and manhood. On the 3d of February 1849, James McSherry died, and on the following Monday, the 5th, the first solemn funeral mass was sung in the church which he so long and faithfully loved.

#### 1850 TO 1884.

But few are now with us who passed through the events we have been narrating. With this period, however, many are more familiar than the writer; but it is not so much for them as for those who are to take their places that these pages are written. The second half of the 18th century found the saintly De Neckere caring for the spiritual interests of the members of

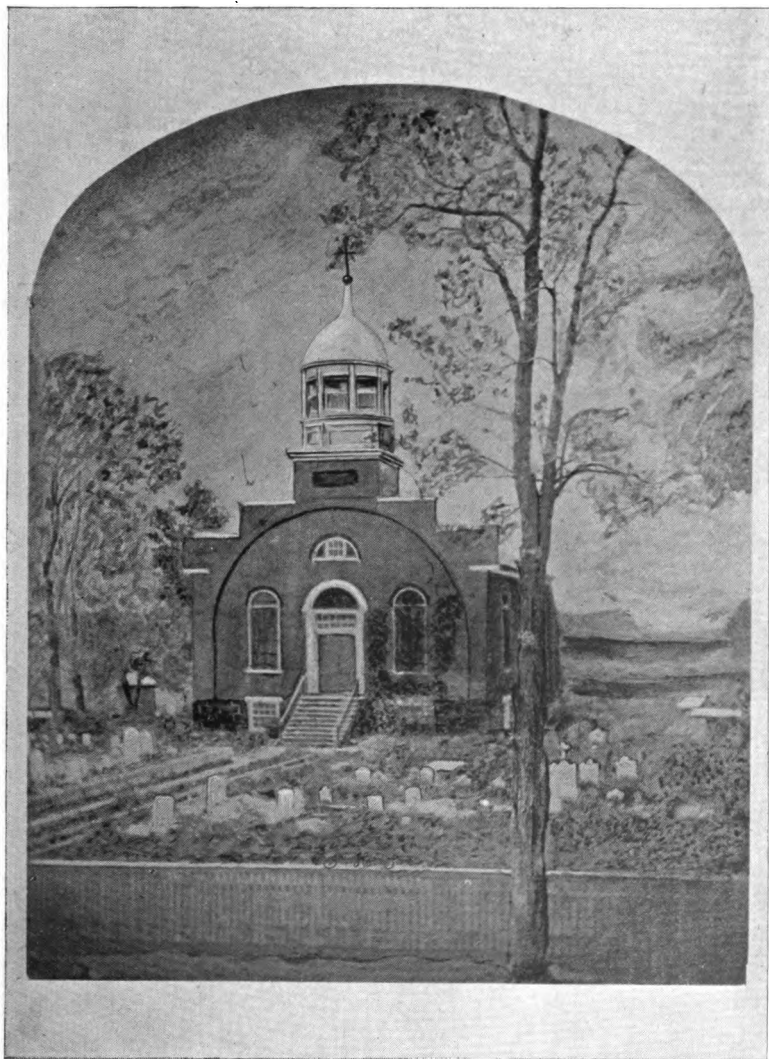
St. Aloysius congregation ; at the same time he had a fatherly care for the financial interests of the church. With the purpose to advance both, he placed the temporal affairs of the congregation under the immediate care of the trustees, and as a proof of his faith in them, both he and they became incorporated under the law of Pennsylvania as appears by the following Charter :

*Whereas,* The Catholic congregation of Littlestown, in the County of Adams, and State of Pennsylvania, have purchased several lots in the town aforesaid and have erected a church on said lots and desire to be incorporated under the name, style and title of "Saint Aloysius."

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same that Francis X. De Neckere, Joseph A. Shorb, Henry Spalding, Joseph Fink, Jacob Baumgartner William McSherry, Sebastian O'Bold, Jacob Marshall and Andrew Little, and their successors, be and are hereby declared and constituted a body politic and corporate in law under the name style and title of "The Congregation of Saint Aloysius."

SECTION 2. That the persons named in the first section of this act shall be the first board of trustees of the congregation of Saint Aloysius, and that five of them shall be a quorum and be competent to perform the duties hereinafter authorized and required to be performed by the said trustees.

SECTION 3. That the said trustees, or a quorum of them, shall have power to provide for their succession by filling such vacancies in the board of said trustees as may from time to time be caused by death, resignation or otherwise, and to prescribe the duties to be performed by the officers of the institution.



SAINT ALOYSIUS CHURCH, 1842.

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SECTION 4. That the said trustees and their successors forever, shall be empowered and authorized, and are hereby declared capable in law to hold the lots now in the possession of the Congregation of Saint Aloysius, in the town of Littlestown, in the County of Adams and State aforesaid, wherever the church is erected for the use of said congregation, and take by purchase, gift, bequest, devise or otherwise, real and personal estate not exceeding in its clear yearly value the sum of two thousand dollars, and the same to hold for said congregation, and to sell, convey, mortgage and transfer the same from time to time as occasion may require for said purposes, and to enjoy all the usual privileges and rights of religious corporate bodies, to sue and be sued, to make by-laws, rules and regulations for their own government as the said by-laws shall determine: *Provided* that the by-laws, rules, regulations or any of them be not repugnant to the laws and constitution of the United States, or the laws and constitution of this Commonwealth, to have a corporate seal, which may be altered when necessary, and generally do everything needful for the support and government of the institution, subject always to the last proviso aforesaid.

SECTION 5. No misnomer of said corporation shall defeat any intended gift, grant, conveyance or bequest thereto if the interest shall sufficiently appear therein.

SECTION 6. The Legislature hereby reserves the right to al-

ter, amend or annul the charter hereby granted, whenever in their opinion the same may be necessary.

J. S. MCCALMONT,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

V. BEST,

*Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED: The nineteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

WM. F. JOHNSTON.

The golden or half-centennial jubilee was celebrated at Littlestown in May, 1851. Fr. Cotton was jointly with Fr. De Neckere an attendant there this year, and they received for their salaries \$170, which was paid to Rev. Joseph Enders. This year there were services during Holy Week, and on August 18, — Bishop Newman administered confirmation. A baptismal font was gotten which cost \$20 and a remonstrance for \$31. Fr. De Neckere contributed generously to the purchase of both of these; to the former \$5, and to the latter \$2.

John L. Gubernator became the organist in 1850. In 1848 a subscription was started for a bell. The only name I have found is that of Samuel Baumgardner, who was then the organist and gave \$5. Fr. J. B. Cattani was Fr. De Neckere's alternate in 1852. The first bell was gotten about this time, but it broke shortly afterwards and was replaced by a better and larger one. The second bell has the following inscription: "Wm. Peters, Balto. A. D. 1852," on the top, and on its base: "S. Aloysii et Smae Dei Parae V. Mariae sub Patroc B. B. V. M. and Sti Aloysii Honor Cath. Congr. Littlestown." On its front is a cross and below the cross "I. H. S MR." The meaning of which is: that Wm. Peters was the founder of the bell, that it was erected

in honor of Saint Aloysius and the Most Holy Mother of God under the patronage of the most Blessed Virgin and Saint Aloysius by the Catholic congregation of Littlestown.

In September 1853 a Retreat was given at Littlestown. The baptismal record this year shows the names of Frs. De Neckere, Michael Haering (May 1st), and M. Dougherty (June 2d) as officiating. A new organ was bought in 1854; and the old one sold to the congregation at Paradise. Father De Neckere's salary was raised from \$120 to \$150. There seems to have been some irregularity in the attendance of the priests this year. The name of Fr. De Neckere appearing March 15th. Fr. Dougherty in June, Rev. Al. Zanalit, S. J., Sept. 3-8, and Fr. De Neckere again in November. David C. Smith, Esq., became the organist, Jan. 20th, 1855, at a salary of \$48 annually. In the fall of 1854 Fr. De Neckere left, and Littlestown was attended by Rev. M. Dougherty. He continued in 1855, and was assisted by Fr. Geo. Villiger. Sept. 4th, 1856, John Walter became the sexton at \$13 per year, and Lewis Norbeck was treasurer. Frs. Villiger and Dougherty still appear on the records; and on September 21st, the name of Fr. Ernestus Reiter, and on Nov. 16th and 17th that of Rev. P. J. Creighton. In 1857 Fathers Reiter, Dougherty, Creighton and De Neckere served in turn. The next year Fr. Creighton's name does not appear. The receipts from pew rents in 1858 were \$334.36, and the amount paid out was \$317.91. In 1859 the pew rents went down to \$304.29 and the expenses to \$281.23. This may be accounted for by the forming of a new congregation at Bonneauville in 1859. Fr. Reiter again attends, and Fr. Peter Manns and Rev. George Haller. In 1860 and 1861 to November 17th, Fr. Manns alone attended Littlestown; on the latter date Fr. De Neckere again



took his turn. The receipts in 1860 went up to \$360.14; and the payments amounted to \$272.02. Frs. De Necker and Manns alternated in 1862 and 1863. In this latter year Fr. Barrister was also an occasional visitor. Fr. De Necker had the altar remodeled in 1864. The work was done by Joseph Stambaugh at a cost of \$74. On June 3rd Bishop Wood administered confirmation. The same priest was pastor in 1865 and 1866. Fr. Manns was also an attendant in the last year. A controversy arose between the congregation and the borough this year as to the laying of the pavement in front of the church grounds. The trustees finally paid the claim, \$33.60.

Mr. Nicholas Baker was the sexton in 1867 at a salary of \$36. Fr. De Neckere was still here and Fr. Manns occasionally. Miss Mary C. Wilson became the organist at \$20 a year. Frs. Manns and De Neckere jointly attended in 1868. Father De Neckere preached a beautiful sermon at the funeral of Mrs. Eliza T. McSherry, who was buried March 28th. D. C Smith was the organist. On the following Sunday the children of the congregation made their First Communion. Up to this time for more than fifty years the priests had made their home, when at Littlestown, with Hon. James McSherry and afterwards with his son William; but after Mrs. McSherry's death Fr. De Neckere went to Mr. Pius P. Fink's house. From 1864 until 1879 Fr. De Neckere was the pastor without intermission at Littlestown, and did nearly all the work alone.

The first nuptial mass of which there is any tradition was said August 30th, 1868, by Father De Neckere. The occasion was the marriage of Miss Mary Coale Wilson to Mr. Francis D. Steffy. She had been the first catholic school teacher and nearly the entire school was present. Miss Jennie Steffy was the

bridesmaid, and James Hann, Esq., the deputy sheriff, was the best man. Miss Harriet Shillen of Gettysburg presided at the organ. It was a very impressive ceremony, and will be long pleasantly remembered.

John F. McSherry became the sexton in 1870. The church receipts from Feb. 15th, 1875, to Feb. 15th, 1876, amounted to \$488.08, and the expenses were \$350.24.

Fr. George Villiger took Fr. De Neckere's place Feb. 15th 1879. He boarded with Mr. Samuel J. Shorb. He received his boarding \$60 and a salary of \$437. Frs. J. B. Emig, J. A. Dunan and Fr. Casey also attended occasionally in 1879. In 1881 Fr. Villiger boarded with Mr. John H. Spalding. The amount collected from March 6th, 1881, to Feb. 25th, 1882, was \$757.40, and the amount paid out was \$753.24.

Fr. Villiger continued pastor until Sept. 20th, 1882, the date of his death, and was succeeded by Fr. Ignatius Renaud, who remained until Aug. 1884 when the congregation was given up by the Jesuits and taken charge of by the Bishop. On June 8th, 1882, Bishop Jeremiah F. Shannahan administered confirmation to a class of 33. The trustees in office at the time of the transfer to the Bishop from the Jesuits were: Joseph L. Shorb, V. President, John F. McSherry, Treasurer, E. F. Shorb, Secretary, James G. Spalding, William Rider, Wm. Kuhns and Pius P. Fink.

#### 1884 TO 1892.

There was no formal transfer of the congregation of St. Aloysius to the Rt. Rev. Jeremiah F. Shannahan, Bishop of Harrisburg. For years there had been a desire on the part of some of the members to have a resident priest. This was not possi-

ble under the arrangement with the Jesuits. The first knowledge that the congregation had that the Jesuits had given up the church was a telegram received by Dr. E. F. Shorb, the Secretary to the trustees, from the Rt. Rev. Bishop on Saturday, Aug. 1st, 1884, "stating that the said Jesuits should discontinue attending St. Aloysius Church and that the congregation would be supplied by a secular priest." Fr. Renaud held services the following day and he was the last Jesuit in charge.

While all quietly accepted the changes, there were, and are yet, many of the congregation, who, accustomed from childhood to the practices and customs of the Jesuit Fathers, regret their separation from them.

The change was an entirely amicable one growing out of the increasing number of the congregation at Littlestown which had out-grown the boundaries of a Mission Church,—the especial care of the zealous Jesuit.

Rev. James J. Gormley the pastor of St. Joseph's Bonneauville, Penn'a was directed to add Littlestown to his charge. He began his service here August 2d, 1884, saying a mass at each place every Sunday, the distance between the two places being five miles. This continued until February 26th, 1885. The labor was too great for this devoted priest, and the arrangements too inconvenient for the congregations.

Rev. Thomas Joseph Crotty succeeded Fr. Gormley as pastor of St. Aloysius Church March 9th, 1885. He has been very energetic, and has done much to promote the welfare of those under his care. The desire and endeavor to advance the interests of the church and to improve their surroundings on the part of the pastor is only equalled by the generosity of his congregation. When he first came Fr. Crotty made his home with

the family of Mrs. Alexander C. Shorb. Although surrounded with many comforts, it was desirable that the pastor should have a parochial residence. At a congregational meeting held Oct. 4th, 1885, it was determined to build a house for the priest on the corner of the old church yard. There was some delay ; but on August 18th, 1887, a contract was entered into between John W. Eline and the pastor for the erection of a pastoral residence. The contract price was \$4100. Mr. Geo. W. Bell was the Architect. Work was at once commenced and to-day the Catholics of Littlestown have not only the handsomest house in Littlestown but one of the finest parochial residences in the State. To their credit it is handsomely furnished and practically paid for. The next event was the purchase of a new cemetery, as appears elsewhere.

The Right Rev. Thomas McGovern administered confirmation to a class of 67 in Sept. 1888.

On the fourth of March 1885 William Rider a trustee, and one of the prominent members, of the Saint Aloysius congregation, made his last will, by which he provided as follows : "To the trustees of the Catholic Church of Littlestown, Adams County, Pennsylvania, known as 'the congregation of Saint Aloysius,' and their successors, I do hereby give, grant, and bequeath one hundred and sixty shares of stock standing in my name on the books of the Littlestown Savings Institution, the interest or dividends on said shares of stock to be drawn annually by said trustees and their successors, or by such person as may be appointed by a resolution of the Board of Trustees as aforesaid for that purpose, and the said interest or dividends so drawn shall be paid over to the 'pastor of the congregation of Saint Aloysius' aforesaid for the purpose of saying masses

for my wife and for myself, the deceased members of my family and the suffering souls in Purgatory. The principal sum of said stock or its reinvestment never to be diminished or used for any other purpose, and if it should be taken for any other purpose, then the principal sum as aforesaid to revert to my estate and to descend to my residuary legatee hereinafter named.

And the trustees aforesaid and their successors, in consideration of the said bequest, are to keep up my own lot and the lot of my deceased father and his vault in the burying ground attached to said church in good order and in proper condition.

And should the Littlestown Savings Institution, from any cause whatsoever, discontinue its business, then the trustees as aforesaid, or their successors, shall reinvest the money realized from said shares of stock in some other good interest-bearing investment and the interest thereon to be paid annually as above directed to the pastor of said congregation, or his successor, for the purpose aforesaid, but the principal always to remain unused for any other purpose."

Mr. Rider died May 4, 1887, and his will was probated May 11, 1887. The Register of Wills in compliance with the law notified the trustees of the above bequest. The following was their reply :

LITTLESTOWN, June 23, 1887.

TO I. STONESIFER, *Register*.

*Dear Sir :* At a special meeting of the board of trustees of St. Aloysius congregation, Thursday 23d June, it was resolved : That the within bequest of Wm. Rider, deceased, late of Littlestown Borough, be not accepted.

[Signed]

T. J. CROTTY, *Pres.*

E. F. SHORB, *Sec.*

This was filed June 25, 1887, in the Register's office.

The stock was appraised at \$31 per share, the 160 shares amounting to \$4960. Under the law this reverted to Miss Joanna Rider, the residuary legatee. While in equity and law it became her absolute property, Miss Rider determined that her uncle's generosity and will should be carried into effect as fully as she could have it done. With this purpose in view, and desiring to show her gratitude to her beneficent uncle, and to at the same time use for religious purposes a part of the wealth which had come from him to her, she determined to add to this bequest sufficient to insure the building of a new Catholic church in Littlestown. To her everlasting credit let it be known that through her generous gift of over \$10,000 the magnificent new church of Saint Aloysius is now completed.

The pastor and people approved of the laudable undertaking, and after several meetings and mature deliberations it was decided to make the building of the new church a congregational matter. A contract was entered into with John W. Eline for the erection of the building for \$13,980. J. W. Bell, of York, was the architect. Work was begun May 7, 1892, after the old church was torn down. During the building of the new church services were held in the Catholic school house.

The following notice of the laying of the corner-stone was inserted in *The Adams County Independent* of June 11, 1887:

"The blessing of the corner-stone of Saint Aloysius R. C. church, Littlestown, Pa., will take place next Sunday, June 12th, at 3.30 P. M. Right Rev. Thomas McGovern, D. D., Bishop of Harrisburg, assisted by a large number of priests, with the usual grand ceremonies of the Catholic Church, will officiate. The Bishop will be escorted from Gettysburg by the officers and

members of St. Francis Beneficial Society. On the arrival of the Bishop and his escort, the united societies of the Holy Trinity of McSherrystown and of St. Aloysius of Littlestown will meet them at the end of Gettysburg street and march to the church, accompanied by Grand Army Band of Gettysburg and McSherrystown Band. Soon after the arrival of the Bishop the sacred ceremonies of the blessing of the corner-stone will commence. The music during the ceremonies will be rendered by the choir of St. Aloysius church, assisted by the Littlestown orchestra. The musical selections for the occasion are: "Lauda Sion," by Lambilotte; "Quid Retribuam," by the same author, and the hymn "Come Holy Spirit;" closing with the "Laudate," &c. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Father Hayes, of Conowago. The Right Rev. Bishop will give a short exhortation to the assembled people.

Dimensions of the new church are: length 114x55 and 44 feet; height of tower 94 feet; height of church 52 feet; width of sanctuary 26 feet; width of vestibule 12 feet. Style Gothic. All are gladly and cordially welcome to attend these singularly impressive ceremonies, and a contribution is expected to be given cheerfully by all who are called on by the collectors appointed by the rector for the occasion.

T. J. CROTTY, Rector.

The corner-stone of the new church was blessed and placed June 12th, 1892, by the Rt. Rev. Thomas McGovern, Bishop of Harrisburg. It was the grandest occasion Littlestown ever saw, about 5000 persons being present. Bishop McGovern accompanied by Rev. Edward P. Allen, President of Mt. St. Mary's College, at Emmittsburg, and Very Rev. Joseph A. Boll of Gettysburg arrived about 3 o'clock P. M. They were met at the

edge of town by the various societies and the parade was formed and led off in the following manner: The Grand Army Band of Gettysburg were followed by the St. Francis Xavier's C. B. Society of Gettysburg (48 members) wearing a neat drab helmet hat ornamented with a blue cross and the letters S. F. B. S. Prof. Martin F. Power was Chief Marshal, George E. Stock and Edward Gowen were Assistant Marshals. Their beautiful banner was carried by E. P. Wisotzkey, and a large American Flag by John E. Hamilton. The Holy Trinity R. C. B. A. of McSherrystown came next, with 86 men, under control of Augustus Eckenrode as Marshal and J. H. Krichten as Assistant. They were accompanied by the McSherrystown band, and carried a beautiful silk American flag. The Saint Aloysius C. B. Society of Littlestown, with 40 members, under James Cretin, came next. The lines separated at the square and the Rt. Rev. Bishop passed through while the men stood with uncovered heads. The parade continued down Baltimore street and returned to the church.

After the blessing of the stone, other services were held at the rear of the church. The choir composed of Misses Emma Shorb, Mary C. McSherry, Helen Kuhns, Sallie Martin, Mary A. Spalding, Ellen Buddy and Mrs. Joseph Livers, soprano, Mrs. Joseph Bittinger, alto, and David C. Smith of Conowago, Harry Martin, Harry and William Weaver and Theodore Eline, were assisted by Dr. E. K. Foreman, flute, Dr. J. W. Hickey, cornet, Walter Lefever, 1st violin, Al. Collins, 2d violin, A. J. Smith, 3d violin, and Ithrium Swartz double bass.

The music was grand and beautiful. Rev. Thomas W. Hayes, S. J., Superior at Conowago, preached from the text, "Go teach all Nations." The Rt. Rev. Bishop then congratulated the con-



gregation and the pastor on their good work and highly praised Miss Rider's liberality.

The following in golden letters is carved on the corner-stone

A. D. †. 1892.

"AD MAJOREM

DEI GLORIAM."

On the side is the date of laying, June 12th. The box in the corner-stone contains the names of Pope Leo XIII., President Harrison, Governor Pattison, the names of the clergymen who took part in the ceremonies, as follows: Rt. Rev. Thomas McGovern, Bishop of Harrisburg, Very Rev. E. P. Allen, D. D., President of Mt. St. Mary's College, Emmittsburg, Md., V. Rev. Jos. A. Boll, V. F., Gettysburg, Rev. T. W. Hayes, S. J., Conowago, Rev. Leo Brand, S. J., McSherrystown, Very Rev. M. J. McBride, Bonneauville, Rev. Lewis E. Kummerant, Phillipsburg, Rev. Wm. Hooman, Hanover, Rev. Pius Hemler, New Oxford, and Messrs. John N. Codori and William Martin, Seminarians, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary, Emmittsburg. It also contains the names of the building committee, Hon. William McSherry, James G. Spalding, Dr. E. K. Foreman, John A. Shorb and James E. Cretin, also the coins of 1892 and copies of *Gettysburg Compiler*, *Star and Sentinel*, *Adams County Independent*, *Catholic Standard*, and *New York Freeman's Journal*, societies present and names of John W. Eline contractor, and Geo. W. Bell architect.

The grounds were beautifully decorated. Over the entrance was a large arch having the word "Welcome" in bright flowers. The Papal and American flags added to the decorations. A large picture of the proposed church hung in the arch. After the exercises the bands seranaded the Bishop at Fr. Crotty's res-

idence. The Gettysburg Society was much admired for their excellent marching and drilling.

#### DESCRIPTION OF PRESENT CHURCH.

The congregation of St. Aloysius of Littlestown have one of the most valuable and beautiful church properties in the county. Their ground begins at the corner of Myer's alley and Baltimore street; and runs with said alley West, 262 feet to M. street; thence with said street, south 174 feet; thence east, about 240 feet, to lot of the U. B. Church; thence at right angles, thence east to a corner; thence fronting on Baltimore street 120 feet; and contains about one acre of land. Upon this lot are built, the church, parochial dwelling and the school house. The church is located about 100 feet back from the street and is unconnected with the other buildings. The architecture is Gothic, the material brick, trimmed with red sand-stone. Its outside width is 55 feet 6 inches and its length 114 feet. The outside height from the ground to the peak of the roof is 52 feet and the outside walls are 25 feet. The tower is 94 feet high and 14 feet square and is located at the left hand corner; within it hangs a sweet-toned bell weighing 2090 pounds, the gift of Mrs. Anna Felix; which was blessed by Very Rev. Joseph A. Boll, Nov. 23d, 1892. As the visitor approaches the church from the front he is attracted by the three gilt crosses surmounting respectively the tower, the centre, and the right hand peaks, as they glitter under the beautiful sunlight. Entering the building through the two decorated and massive doors, that guard the approach, from the right hand corner, we are soon within one of the vestibules—a room 12x15 feet. Here falls upon the gaze of the astonished beholder a charming memorial window of Ca-

thedral glass, venetian jewelled, 15 feet high and 5 wide—the gift of James Spalding, Jr. With this glimpse, no wonder the eye is prepared to take in the grandeur of this magnificent edifice. Scarcely have the doors closed upon him before the visitor reaches a little chapel, lighted up by a similar window, capped by a chaste emblem, a Bishop's mitre in gold, surrounded by red and blue and purple. As we follow its bright colors from the top to its base we find that it is the gift of the Right Reverend Thomas McGovern, Bishop of Harrisburg. Passing on a little further, we come to another window the gift of John W. Eline and wife. The emblem is a cross, crown, and palm upon a blue field. The next window is the gift of Pius P. Fink. The sacred nails and the crown of thorns form the cap in colors of red and green. Joseph L. Shorb, Esq., deceased, is kindly remembered by a memorial window having for its emblem a white dove on a field of blue surrounded by a circle of olive yellow and red opal. The next window is the gift of the Rosary Society. The Sacred Heart entwined by a wreath within a golden circle, with a blue edge, forms the design. This window does not extend as far down as the others, but forms the background for one of the confessionals.

Crossing over to the other side, immediately opposite is a similar window over the other confessional, the gift of the Sodality. Its emblem is the sacred heart of Mary pierced with a sword. Like the window opposite, it is on a field of gold surrounded with blue. Then comes a window to the memory of John and Caroline Rider—the parents of her who so generously contributed to the building of this church. The letters I. H. S. form a monogram with a cross in a blue circle.

Francis S. and William O'Bold very generously donated the

next window. The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, Alpha (*A*) and Omega (*Q*) (meaning God is the Beginning and the End) form a monogram with a cross encircled with a red wreath as the design of this window.

The keys of heaven in a blue circle form the emblem of the next window which is the gift of William Kuhns.

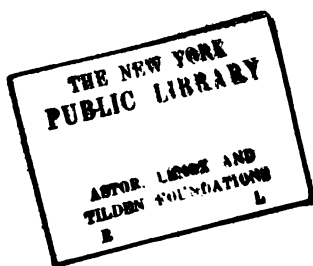
The shadows which fall from the window presented by the Very Reverend Joseph A. Boll, of Gettysburg, Rural Dean, mingle with those cast by the window of the Rt. Rev. Bishop which is directly opposite. The emblem of his generous gift is a chalice in gold from which rises the Sacred Host surrounded by a red circle. Within the chapel, which this window lights, is placed the beautiful baptismal font of carved oak, the gift of Mrs. Clara Smith. Crossing over to the centre aisle at each corner stands a marbleized vase representing an angel holding a holy-water basin ornamented with a neat alms-box. Going on then to the centre of the church,—which is 42 feet wide and 57 long from sanctuary to vestibule, containing two side aisles of three feet each and a centre one of five, with walls 23 feet from floor to ceiling and a distance of 32 from floor to pitch,—a grand view is had of the interior. Standing in the centre aisle on each side are ranged 36 comfortable pews of ash wood. The distance from the last pew to the vestibule is 10 feet; and from the first pew to the sanctuary rail is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The confessionals are on either side near the sanctuary. They are built outside of the church walls and are concealed by massive carved Gothic doors. The church is heated by a furnace and lighted with gasoline. Very neat chandeliers and gas jets are fitted into the walls. The ceiling is octagonal, and in addition to the windows already described there are six dormer windows near the ceiling

of colored glass. The main windows number 18 and they are all composed of Cathedral glass. The body of the windows are without any special design. Bright colors of red, blue, green and purple form circles intertwining circles, and one color mingles with another, leaving upon the eye a vision of beauty. Looking from the centre towards the entrance a large choir loft extends nearly across the front over the vestibules. As the eye is looking in that direction thousands of varied colored rays play before the vision. Another glance and the beautiful Rose window, the gift of Rev. Pius P. Hemler, pastor of the Immaculate Conception, of New Oxford, Penn'a, breaks upon the view in all its splendor. The visitor is about to leave; but as he turns to go he sees one bright color chasing another across the floor of the sanctuary. A close examination shows that hidden from the public view two little gems of windows on either side are quietly lighting up the sanctuary with their bright colors. The one to the right represents a pelican feeding its young, and is surrounded by a circle of red and blue, while that to the left is a white lamb bearing a cross, encircled with a wreath of red clover. The location shows the modesty of the donors. The first is the gift of Rev. John Hollern, of the Cathedral, at Harrisburg; the other is the donation of the pastor, Rev. Thomas J. Crotty.

The Sanctuary is raised about 12 inches above the church floor and is approached by two steps. It is separated from the body of the church by ornamental panels of ash, two feet high, surmounted by a railing of cherry. It has the form of a double Gothic arch, and is 32 feet high, 22 deep, and 44 wide. Within its enclosure the main altar stands on a platform reached by three steps of 5 inches each. The altar is 20 feet high, 16 wide,



**SAINT ALOYSIUS.**



and 5 deep. It is made of white pine, painted white and ornamented with gilt. The base is three feet high, and within it will be placed a gilt representation of the Lord in the tomb. The altar is Gothic, and has four panels adorned with roses and wheat in raised carving. At each side will be angels on fluted pillars. It is in every respect a magnificent piece of art. Cross and turrets add to the beauty of the tabernacle. It is the gift of Miss Joanna Rider.

To the right of the main altar stands that of the Blessed Virgin. It is made of the same material as the main altar, and finished in the same style and colors. The base is 7 feet long, 3 feet 3 inches wide, and 3 feet 8 inches high. It has three multifiform panels. On the centre panel there will be a raised monogram, formed of the letters A M ; and on the other panels there will be raised carvings of roses and lilies. The top is surmounted by a beautiful canopy, for the statue of the Blessed Virgin. The total height is 15 feet. It is the gift of the Misses McSherry, as a memorial of their mother, Eliza T. McSherry, deceased.

St. Joseph's Altar is to the left and nearly resembles that of the Blessed Virgin. It has upon its base, in relief, I. H. S. Miss Joanna Shorb is the generous donor, and it is a memorial of her brother, Jos. L. Shorb, deceased. The parish is already the owner of beautiful statues of the Blessed Virgin and of St. Joseph, which add very much to the beauty of their respective altars by their presence in the canopies.

Passing down the centre aisle, then turning to the right, you come to the southern exit. Coming out to the vestibule, the large window to the right is the gift of James G. Spalding, Sr., Esq., and is like that of his son already described. The wind-



ing steps lead to the belfry and choir loft. Stepping into the centre vestibule we find it beautifully lit up by the light from three magnificent windows. The first is the gift of J. Augustus Smith, the next a memorial window erected by Misses Sarah and Emma Shorb, in memory of their father, Alexander C. Shorb, deceased, and the other was donated by Miss Joanna Shorb, as a memorial to her parents, John and Mary Shorb, deceased.

No one who has made a visit to this church can come away without being impressed with its beauty and simplicity, and as the generous donor kneels within its walls the words of the Psalmist become verified: "I have loved, oh Lord, the beauty of Thy House and the place where Thy Glory dwelleth!"

The parochial residence is a two-story brick house. It is located about 30 feet back from Baltimore street and is surrounded with grass and paths and flowers and trees. It contains twelve rooms and has heat, water and gasoline throughout. In every respect it is a modern house, built of the best material and presents a fine appearance. From its bay windows a fine view of the streets may be had and its porches bespeak for the visitor the hospitality of its occupant.

The school house is of brick—one story high. Its length is about 48 feet and its width about 24 feet.

The parish has no defined boundaries. By common consent it extends to the Maryland line on the south,—a distance from the church of two miles and a half,—and to about midway between Littlestown and Taneytown, a distance of about five miles; in the direction, of Gettysburg about four miles, towards Two Taverns,—an uncertain point, from which Gettysburg, Bonneauville, Littlestown and Emmitsburg all draw;—and to Flat Bush

the dividing line,—about three miles—between Bonneauville and Conowago; and to about three miles towards Hanover. There have never been any serious disputes about the parish lines. All the adjoining clergy are on friendly terms with the pastor at Littlestown; and the people of the different parishes mingle freely.

#### SOCIETIES.

On the first Sunday of June, 1844, it seems that the joint Society of the Rosary and Sanctuary was established. Mrs. Grace R. Smith was the Treasurer, the amount of collections at that date was \$8.27 ½.

Some time afterwards "The Library Association of St. Aloysius" was formed. Wm. McSherry was the President, Henry Spalding, Vice-president, Jacob Klunk, Librarian, and Edward Spalding, Secretary and Treasurer. Many of the books had been the property of the Rosary Society, and others were presented by members and friends. The society was reorganized in Sept. 1887, and has about 600 volumes. The Library is kept in the centre vestibule of the new church.

"The Holy Childhood" was organized for the benefit of Missions in China, and a branch established in Littlestown about 1862. There was also the "Bona Mores" Society, at the meetings of which, held once a month, prayers were said by the priest to obtain a good and happy death for its members.

There are at present the Blessed Virgin Sodality, Sacred Heart League, Rosary, and Sanctuary societies. The St. Aloysius Catholic Beneficial Society was organized June 1st, 1892, with 46 members and the following officers: Dr. E. K. Foreman, President; James D. Spalding, Vice-president; A. J. Smith,

Secretary ; J. Aug. Smith, Treasurer ; James Cretin, Marshal ; Bernard Bauhaus, Assistant Secretary ; Frank Dietz, Messenger. The Sodality has about 60 members, the League was organized in 1889. The Sanctuary Society has 100 members.

#### THE SCHOOL.

The Catholics of Littlestown although burdened with heavy contributions, by reason of building a new church, were early willing to assume the expense of maintaining a parochial school. The following letter, written, no doubt, at the instance of the trustees, was the first step towards this end.

LITTLESTOWN, Feb. 25th, 1840.

*Rev'd Sir :* The Sisters' School at McSherrystown is doing well. They have their house well filled with boarders, and will not have room to accommodate but few, if any, more boarders, without they have an additional room built which (I) suppose will be difficult for them to have done. Dr. Joseph A. Shorb, Joseph Fink, Henry Spalding myself and others, think that if we could procure two Sisters to attend at this place, we could raise a sufficient number of scholars. We would rent a home for them. We have church here twice a month, once on Sunday and once on week days, and, if required, would make arrangements to have the Sisters taken to Conowago Church on the remaining Sundays and Holidays. If you think that two Sisters could be spared for the purpose of teaching, you will please to inform us, and we will call on you after having made arrangements for their accommodation.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

JAMES MCSHERRY.

The above letter was written to Fr. Hickey; and the following is his reply.

EMMITTSBURG, 2d March, 1840.

*Dear Sir:* Yr letter of the 25th ult has been rec'd and its contents read to our little Council. The Sisters are not able to comply with yr request of a school for Littlestown. It will be with much difficulty that the other establishment of Mac Sherry's Town can be continued. The establishments already existing are too numerous for us to keep supplied with Sisters; so that we could not think of undertaking a new one. Besides if we find ourselves able to undertake any new one, we have already many prior applications; some of which are promised in case we get able. There w'd also be objection on account of the distance from the residence of a clergyman.

Yr obt servant,

JOHN F. HICKEY.

Nothing further was done in this matter until 1867. This year a brick one-story school house, about 24x36, was built in the rear of the church, on the land bought from Ephraim Myers in 1862. A fair was held in the school house from which the sum of \$1000 was realized. This sum was set apart for a school fund, and the annual interest appropriated towards the support of the school. It is now in the parochial dwelling. An entertainment was given in Eph. Myers Hall, under the direction of Fr. De Neckere, and the proceeds used for school purposes. Miss Mary Coale Wilson was the first teacher. The school opened Nov. 18th, 1867, with about 121 scholars—fifty five boys and sixty-five girls. The school was thoroughly religious. The classes began with prayer, and on Wednesday and Friday

afternoon some one of the scholars said the beads to which the whole school answered. It was usual to have one of the boys read aloud some book on etiquette, or on some entertaining or religious subject while the girls were engaged in sewing. Miss Wilson was a very popular and efficient teacher, and gave universal satisfaction. She taught until June 23d, 1869. The girls sat together and the boys together. The latter used the church basement for play-ground in bad weather, the girls the school house.

Miss Wilson was succeeded as teacher by Miss Ellen Heath, who took charge of the school September 4th, 1870, and continued in charge until October 1871. The average number of pupils under her control was about 90. Miss Heath was a daughter of Judge Robert Heath, of Edenton, N. C., and had been educated at St. Joseph's Academy, Emmittsburg, Md. She brought to her school-work the same refined manners which one is accustomed to in a ladies' parlor. Her language and manner always showed her gentle training and had a most beneficial effect upon her scholars. She afterwards became the wife of Dr. E. F. Shorb, and now presides with charming grace over her Washington home.

Mr. Joseph Smith was the next teacher. He introduced the study of Latin into the school, for such as desired to take lessons. He remained in control from Oct. 1st, 1871, to 1873, and was followed by Frank Addelsperger.

Miss Mary Fink took charge of the school about 1875, and taught until 1877.

On October 1st, 1877, Anthony J. Smith became the teacher. At this time he had twenty-eight pupils. During the second and third year of his term the number of pupils increased to

sixty, and the fourth and fifth year the number reached 83. Mr. Smith was the teacher for five years—a fact which speaks well for him and proves that he gave universal satisfaction.

Miss Margaret Delaney taught the school from 1882 to 1884, with much success. She afterwards had charge of the Parochial school at New Oxford, Penna. She married a Mr. Robinson, and is now living in Baltimore. Miss Delaney is favorably remembered at Littlestown, where she has many friends, also in New Oxford.

Miss Emma Shorb of Littlestown became the assistant to Mr. A. J. Smith in 1880, and held the position of assistant teacher until 1884, when she became principal, and had charge as such until 1887. She then resumed her former relation to the school and has been the assistant teacher ever since, including the present time. From Sept. 1884 to Jan. 1885 she was assisted by Miss Jennie Eline, in teaching. During Miss Shorb's principalship calisthenics were introduced. She has always been a general favorite with her scholars, who love her for her kindness, and by her fidelity to duty she has won and deserves the praise and gratitude of all the patrons of the school. Her education was begun as one of the first pupils of the school over which she now presides, and was completed by her attendance at St. Joseph's Academy, McSherrystown.

Cromwell J. Ford, of Winchester, Va., took charge of the school in September, 1887, and taught it until April, 1888.

He was followed by Maxwell C. Drennan, a graduate of the London University, and a native of Penzance, England. Mr. Drennan possessed unusual ability, and freely gave his scholars the benefit of his superior knowledge until June, 1890. During Mr. Drennan's term, the school gave an exhibition in Mehring's

Hall. He introduced short-hand, algebra, and had a class of drilled boys.

Mr. John F. Maguire was the next teacher. He was born in the County of Leitrim, Ireland, on the 7th day of July, 1864. He attended the National schools until he was twelve years of age when he was sent to a Boarding school in Glasgow, Scotland. He remained there for five years; after which he went to Hammersmith Training College, London, where he procured a teacher's permanent certificate valid in any part of the British realm. During the following five years he taught school in London and Glasgow. He came to New York City in July, 1880, and taught school in the State of New Jersey until 1890. In September of that year he came to Littlestown and began teaching the parochial school, and taught it for two years. During that time he had about 40 pupils. Mr. Maguire brought with him many of the characteristics of his native land. While his wit caused many a happy laugh, his knowledge lightened many a task for his pupils. Always light-hearted and hopeful he was gladly welcomed in every home. He is now engaged in teaching the parochial school at New Oxford and is giving universal satisfaction.

Mr. Andrew J. Smith is the present teacher. He is a native of New Jersey and a graduate of Seaton Hall College, in that State. He brings to his work a well trained mind, stored with immense knowledge of persons and places. His pen moves as rapidly as his brain thinks, and the result is that he has become very proficient in expressing his thoughts in elegant language. He is a genial companion and has the confidence and respect of his school. There are about 78 names on the list. As the school house is used for a church during the building of the

new one. The basement of the United Brethren Church has been used for school purposes during this session.

None can read the above statements without concluding that pastor and people, teacher and pupil have been and are doing their work well, that the heart and the brain may both be equally trained to do life's duties faithfully.

#### THE CEMETERY.

It will be remembered that the plot bought from Joseph Flauth, in 1791, contained three-quarters of an acre "to be converted into a Roman Catholic Church or Chapel and Burying Ground for the congregation aforesaid." The Chapel stood in the front corner, and the graves were back and to the right of it. It was many years before the ground was generally used for sepulture. Dr. Ephraim Davis, who died October 15th, 1831, is said to have been the first adult buried there. Prior to that the burials took place at Conowago. When the brick church was built, in 1841, it was located much further back from the road than the old chapel had been, and the result was to give more space for graves in the front. A wide gateway led from the street to the church yard, and a broad walk extended to the church door, dividing the ground into two parts. On either side were graves, and as friends and relatives passed through this "city of the dead" to enter the church of the Living God, they could not but be reminded of their duty to pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed, and especially those of this congregation.

In the year 1852 deeds were first given for burial lots. About this time the vaults of Dr. Joseph A. Shorb, Pius P. Fink and Wm. McSherry were built. The first was at the left and



the others to the right of the church. Most of the graves were marked by tombstones, and members of the same family were buried side by side.

October 4th, 1885, a new cemetery meeting was held by the congregation. William McSherry was made Chairman, and John A. Shorb was chosen Secretary. Joseph Bittinger, Anthony J. Smith, James G. Spalding, John F. McSherry, and Pius P. Fink were appointed a committee to consider the question to secure ground for a cemetery; and also for a parsonage. Oct. 11th, they reported in favor of building a parsonage on the church lot and a postponement of the cemetery question.

In May, 1886, a tract of 5 acres was bought from John A. Swope for \$450 and title taken in the name of the Rt. Rev. J. F. Shannahan, Bishop of Harrisburg, in trust for the congregation of St. Aloysius of Littlestown. It is nearly a mile from the church, and on a hill overlooking the town and the country for miles around. It was laid out in lots, separated by avenues and walks, for a cemetery, and consecrated as such by Rev. Paul Huber, C. S. S. R. of Baltimore, October 24th, 1886. Those who had been buried in the old grave-yard were removed to the new cemetery; and all burials take place there now. Francis Martin was the first who died after the new cemetery was used and he was buried in it 1886. A large memorial cross lifts its broad arms as the signal that those who are buried under its shadow died in the Catholic faith. A suitable gate-way marks the entrance to the cemetery. The lots are well kept, and fine monuments and tablets show that the dead are not forgotten. The casual visitor will generally see the new graves strewn with flowers placed by loving hands. Here all are equal and there is but little outward appearances to show where lie the

rich or where the poor, and as they mingled in life so they sleep in death. But few are here whom the world called great; and yet beneath the rough exterior once beat many warm hearts who faithfully served their fellowmen and loved their God and now rest with him. The following list includes some of the older members of the congregation who are buried here. Some were brought from Conowago—as Patrick McSherry and his wife Catharine, whose ashes are now mingled with that of so many of their descendants who sleep with them.

Dr. Ephraim Davis died Oct. 15, 1831, age 49 years. Elizabeth M. Davis, b. Nov. 1, 1787, d. Feb. 26, 1873. Jacob Rider d. Dec. 23, 1853, age 74-1-8. Caroline, wife of John Rider, b. March 26, 1819, d. Jan 25, 1851. Wm. Rider d. May 4, 1887, age 72-3-24. Jacob Baumgardner, b. Oct. 25, 1787, d. March 20, 1869. Magdalene, wife of Jacob Baumgardner, b. Feb. 16, 1783, d. August 4, 1853. John Baumgardner d. Jan. 16, 1853, age 62-4-24. Margaret Baumgardner d. Feb. 11, 1861, age 68-1-3. Jacob Baumgardner, b. Nov. 15, 1765, d. Sept. 9, 1846. Samuel Baumgardner d. Sept. 6, 1849, age 56-2-7. Barbara, wife of Samuel Baumgardner, d. Sept. 10, 1878, age 92-5-3. Sarah Will (daughter of Catharine and Patrick McSherry), b. Feb. 22, 1778, d. Oct. 24, 1833. Catharine McSherry, wife of Patrick, d. Nov. 7, 1812, age 70. Patrick McSherry d. July 13, 1795, age 70. Patrick McSherry (of John) d. Feb. 10, 1874, age 83. Mary, wife of Patrick McSherry, (of John) d. June 26, 1860, age 66. Margaretta, wife of John McSherry, d. July 26, 1849, age 86. Elizabeth, wife of John Rimbach, d. Jan. 17, 1879, age 81. Elizabeth, daughter of Conrad Allwine, and wife of Jacob Weirick, b. Jan. 17, 1787, d. March 25, 1851. Jacob Weirick, b. June 24, 1783, d. May 7, 1859. Mary Lansinger d. Sept. 4,

1863, age 82. Sebastian O'Bold, b. Feb. 22, 1794, d. Nov. 5, 1875. Catharine, wife of Sebastian O'Bold, b. Feb. 7, 1793, d. June 19, 1863. Catharine, wife of Wm. Goulden, b. July 11, 1788, d. Aug. 10, 1861. Joseph Fink, d. Oct. 31, 1866, age 71. Esther Fink d. April 14, 1877, age 78-3-2. Jacob Fink d. Oct. 30, 1868, age 70-9-22. Magdalene, wife of Henry Fink, April 12, 1842, age 86. Mary M., wife of Pius P. Fink d. Jan. 14, 1890, age 73-10-18. Anthony Shorb d. June 26, 1800, age 42-6. Dr. Joseph A. Shorb d. Sept. 25, 1855, age 62-6-6. John Eline, b. July 15, 1786, d. March 11, 1861. Henry Spalding d. Feb. 26, 1867, 77-5-24. George Lawrence, b. Aug. 12, 1807, d. Sept. 1, 1873. Catharine, wife of George Lawrence. d. Nov. 5, 1886, age 84. Peter Kase d. March 15, 1849, age 82. Magdalene, wife of Peter Kase, d. April 28, 1846 age 80. Catharine, wife of Moritz Buddy, d. Sept. 30, 1866, age 79-11-12. Moritz Buddy d. Sept. 15, 1855, age 75-7. John Shorb d. Feb. 5, 1847, age 61-4-12. Mary, wife of John Shorb d. Feb. 15, 1835, age 42-7-5. Mary, wife of Anthony Shorb d. September 5, 1837, age 85. Josiah Baumgardner, b. October 15, 1807, d. December 15, 1873. John Felix, b. August 15, 1807, d. July 23, 1875. Andrew Wilt, b. May 11, 1792, d. Feb. 26, 1853. Anna, wife of Andrew Wilt, d. Feb. 8, 1862, age 67-5. Catharine, wife of John Rider, b. Sept. 7, 1788, d. Dec. 26, 1862. John Rider, b. Aug. 18, 1776, d. Sept. 29, 1844. Catharine, wife of James Plunkert, d. Aug. 26, 1846, age 56-1-3. Barbara, wife of John Diehl, b. May 4, 1792, d. April 10, 1869. Mary E., wife of Andrew McSherry, d. Sept. 23, 1866, age 82. Margarette A., wife of Wm. Staub, b. Dec. 29, 1820, d. June 18, 1854. Anna Mary, wife of Wm. Staub, d. Aug. 22, 1891, age 79-8-7. John Staub, b. July 1789, d. June 30, 1852. Ma-

ria Margaret, wife of John Staub, b. May 27, 1783, d. April 8, 1855. Henry Weaver d. April 1, 1865, age 68—13 days. "Here lies Anna Ulrick, born, in Germany, K. R. Bairen, July 20, 1797, died April 24, 1858." Valentine Ulrick, b. Oct. 12, 1804, d. Feb. 15, 1882. Andrew Riffle, Sr., d. April 27, 1844, age 53. Andrew Riffle, Jr., d. Dec. 2, 1843, age 21. Grace R., Smith d. June 5, 1859, age 86. Jacob Orndorff, b. Feb. 27, 1799. d. Nov. 22, 1873. Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Gouker, b. May 5, 1805, d. May 9, 1871.

## BIOGRAPHIES.

Our Patron Saint, Aloysius Gonzaga, son of Ferdinand Gonzaga, Prince of the Holy Empire and Marquis of Castiglione, and of Martha Tanna Santena, lady of Honor to Isabelle, wife of Phillip II., of Spain, was born in the Castle of Castiglione, Italy, in the diocese of Brescia, March 9th, 1568. His father designed him for the Army; but before he was twelve years old Aloysius decided to become a religious. At the age of thirteen and a-half years he was made a page at the Court of King Philip of Spain. He soon after determined to become a Jesuit. His father strongly objected to his choice, but at last consented. In November, 1585, he formally renounced his right to the title and estate of the Marquisate of Castiglione in favor of his younger brother, Ralph. He entered the Novitiate of the Jesuits at St Andrew's in Rome, November 25th, 1585, when nearly 18 years old. On the 20th of November 1587, he made his religious vows, and soon after received minor orders. He was taken sick in March, while attending in a hospital during a pestilence in Rome, and died "a little after midnight between the 20th and 21st days of June, the Octave of Corpus Christi

that year, 1591, being twenty-three years, three months and eleven days old, of which he had lived five years and almost seven months in the society." "He was buried in the church of the Annunciation belonging to the Jesuits of the Roman College. A rich chapel being afterwards built in that church, under his name, his relicts were translated into it. St. Aloysius was beatified by (Pope) Gregory XV. in 1621, and Canonized by (Pope) Benedict XIII., 1726," who conferred upon him the title of Patron of Christian Youth. His young lips early pronounced the holy names of the Blessed Virgin and her Divine Son.

His characteristics were tenderness for the poor, devotion to the Mother of God, great humility, obedience, love of the Blessed Eucharist, and absolute purity. He is the Patron Saint of Youth, and of Chastity. He is usually represented as kneeling before a skeleton holding in his hand a lily and a crucifix. From what we know of his life we may well believe he is now very near to the Throne of Grace, and as we bend our head and kneel in prayer in this sacred edifice, we may confidently ask of him in the words of his Litany, "The delight of the Blessed Virgin, pray for us," and thank God that he has given us a patron and model who so nearly fulfilled his divine will in all things!

Reverend James Pellentz, S. J., was born in Germany, January 19th, 1727. He became a Jesuit in 1744, and was professed in 1756. He arrived in Maryland from England in June 1758. Soon after his arrival he was sent to Conowago. From this place he attended the Missions of Frederick and Hagerstown, in Maryland, and Carlisle and Lancaster in Pennsylvania. As early as 1784 "he had procured a small building for a church in

the neighboring village of Littlestown." Thus he became the first pastor of what is now the congregation of St. Aloysius. In 1768 he succeeded Fr. James Frombach as Superior at Conowago. According to a letter written to Bishop Carroll in 1785, he had purchased some of the present chapel farm from Mr. Digges. He also gave Rev. Luke Geisler, S. J., about four hundred dollars "for a house in Carlisle to keep service in," and about one hundred and fifty dollars for a house at Standing Stone. In 1785 he began to build the stone church of the Sacred Heart at Conowago, which was finished the next year. He also built the parsonage there and the farm buildings. He attended the First Council held at Baltimore, in 1791, and was Vicar General to Bishop Carroll. It is very likely that in this capacity and as its first pastor he dedicated the church property in Littlestown purchased from Joseph Flauth in 1791. The record of his death at Conowago says: "On the 13th of March of the year 1800, at half-past seven, A. M., died James Pellentz, and was buried on the 15th. He dies in peace by the grace of him who by his death regenerated him. Not death, but life, rather should it be called. The name of Pellentz has many claims to consideration. A stranger in a foreign land, he erected this house and church (at Conowago), and with zeal and devotion he made it the object of his life to gather men within the fold of the church."

We are told that "he was a Missionary of the most exemplary piety, of untiring zeal, of the most agreeable and fascinating manners, and certainly possessed of uncommon influence not only over his own flock but also possessing the affection and confidence of persons of other religious denominations. "Those few without distinction of religious creeds who have

survived him and who were personally acquainted with him speak in the most exalted terms of his character, and by them his memory is held in the highest veneration." Let us continue to preserve with gratitude the memory of our first pastor and the founder of this congregation, and offer our humble prayers that God may grant that pastor and people may meet in heaven.

Father D. Stanislaus Cerfoumout was likely a pastor at Littlestown. He was a Jesuit, and also a Franciscan, from Liege. His name appears among the priests who attended the First Council at Baltimore. He was a Missionary priest for nineteen years, and died at Conowago August 2d, 1804, aged 53 years. It is said he collected many of the old books of the library at the chapel.

Rev. Francis Xavier Brosius was born in Germany. He came to the United States with Demetrius A. Gallitzin, and landed at Baltimore in Oct., 1792. He was at St. Peter's Church in that city Nov. 5th of the same year. It seems he was at Conowago from 1792 to 1804, when he became pastor at St. John's Baltimore. He opened a school at Conowago about 1800. From 1807 to 1813 he was at Mount Airy, eight miles from Philadelphia; where he had a school. Lancaster seems to have been under his care in 1796. It is more than likely that he frequently said mass at Littlestown. He died in Europe.

Demetrius Augustin Gallitzen was the son of Prince Gallitzen, of St. Petersburg, Russia, and was born at Hague, Holland, December 22d, 1770. When but two years of age he was commissioned officer of the Guard, by Catharine, Empress of Russia. He became a Catholic at the age of 17 years. In 1792 he was appointed Aid-de-Camp to the Austrian General Von Lillien. He adopted the name of his mother Schmet and sailed

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REV. F. X. DE NECKERE, S. J.



from Rotterdam with Rev. Fr. Felix Brosius August 18th, 1792, and arrived at Baltimore October 28th of this year. He entered the Sulpitian Seminary there and was ordained Priest March 18th, 1795, being the second priest ordained in the United States. He was sent to Conowago, and while stationed there he visited Littlestown and other Missions, including Taneytown, Md. In 1799 he went to Cambria county, Penn'a, where he founded the famous Mission of Loretto. In 1810 James Mc-Sherry, a representative in the Pennsylvania Legislature, had a law passed allowing Father Smith to assume again his name of Gallitzin. Fr. Gallitzin received great sums of money from Russia and spent it all in the cause of religion. He died at Loretto, May 6th, 1840. By many he is considered a Saint. He was a most pious and humble Missionary and won many souls for God. He has been described as being 5 feet 9 inches high, of slender figure, dark eyes and hair, and a large nose. He was a fine horse-back rider.

Father John Nicholas Mertz is a name yet handed down as one of the attending priests at Littlestown. He was born at Bondorf, April 26, 1764, and ordained at Treves, March 23, 1791. He was a missionary secular priest. He was at Conowago from about 1803 to 1805, and also from 1826 to 1829. He labored in Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York, and died Aug. 10, 1844. "He always wore the peculiar clerical costume of his country of a century ago — three-cornered cap, black cravat, long brown coat, knee-breeches and shoe-buckles." He was a famous preacher.

Adolphus Lewis De Barth was born at Münster in the province of Upper Rhine, Nov. 1, 1764. His father was Count De Barth. He entered the Seminary at Strasburg, and was or-

dained in 1790. He officiated in the lower counties of Maryland and came to Lancaster about 1795. An entry in his own writing at Conowago says: "Lewis Barth arrived here January 16th, 1704." He seems to have had charge of the accounts from that time, off and on. In October 1806 he returned to Lancaster where he remained about four months when he again went to Conowago. St. Patrick's, at Carlisle, was built under his control in 1806, and the corner-stone of St. Patrick's, in York, was laid in 1810. He was Vicar General to Bishop Egan; and administrator of the Diocese of Philadelphia from 1814 to 1820. He was pastor at Littlestown in 1818 and until 1828, with intermissions. In 1820 he became Superior at Conowago where he remained until 1828 when he was stationed at St. John's Church Baltimore. He was there for ten years. It is generally supposed that he was not a Jesuit, but their records show that he entered their society July 1815. He was one of the incorporators, in 1804, of the Order of Hermits of St. Augustine in Penn'a. His residence, is given as St. Mary's Church, Phila., in 1720, according to the will of Rev. Mathews Carr, dated Sept. 3d, 1820. He was several times offered the appointment to the Bishoprick of Philadelphia but declined the honor. In 1838 he retired to Georgetown College where he died on the 15th of October 1844. He is buried in the Trinity Church Grounds. Father De Barth, or L. Barth as he often signed his name, is well and pleasantly remembered at Littlestown. He was a learned and pious priest who served both his God and his fellowmen with fidelity unto the end of his life.

Father Matthew Lekeu was born in Belgium, March 25th, 1788. He became a Jesuit August 2d, 1816, having been a secular priest. He came to Conowago May 25th, 1817 and was

there until about 1842. About 1846 he removed to Belgium and soon after left the order, it is said. Fr. Griffin of St. Charles' College says: "He was a kind and hospitable man, and strived to make every one around him happy." He was a short thick-set man, and a good preacher. He is well remembered as a pastor at Littlestown.

Rev. Michael Dougherty was born in Ireland, Aug. 15th, 1791. He entered the Society of Jesus on the 30th of Nov. 1819. In 1729 he came to Conowago and remained there until about 1844 when he was sent to New Town, Maryland. He was ordained in 1826, and sent to Georgetown, D. C. He became pastor at Littlestown about the year he came to Conowago. He was also pastor and built the church at Gettysburg in 1831. He returned to Conowago in 1848, and died there August 21st, 1863. He was pastor at Littlestown in 1840, and built the brick church in 1841, torn down in 1892. He also attended there in 1854. His salary, from May 1833 to May 1834, at Littlestown, was \$40. He attended once a month and it was paid in advance.

Rev. J. Roger Dietz came to Conowago about 1842 and had charge of Gettysburg and the Mountain congregations. He began the church records at Littlestown in 1844. He died at Conowago in 1860. He was a very pious priest. He was at Bohemia in 1846, at Wheeling 1849. His last baptism at Littlestown was Nov. 19th 1848. He built the sacristy-addition to the church, about 1845.

Father James Cotting was a native of Switzerland, and was born May 23d, 1812. He became a Jesuit March 27th, 1837, and was ordained March 28th, 1840. He landed in the United States in August, 1840. In 1843 he built the first German church, St. Joseph's, in St. Louis, Missouri, a few years after he

built two more churches in that State. He came to Conowago August 18th, 1849. He built the Gettysburg Church in 1851 and the York church in 1852. During these two years he also attended at Littlestown. He was sent to Newtown, Md., in 1853. At the time of his death his home was at White-Marsh, Md., but at his request he was taken to Georgetown College, where he died June 27th, 1892, and is buried. "He was above the medium height and very stout." Fr. Cotting was a genial companion and a very popular priest. He was a great church-builder. In addition to above he built St. Joseph's in Charles county, and Brook's Chapel, in Prince George's county, Maryland. For several years he had charge of the Indians in the West. For the last thirty years he labored among the colored people in the South.

Rev. Peter Manns was born in the diocese of Limburg, Province of the Rhine, Germany, June 25th, 1810. He became a Jesuit March 20th, 1853, and was ordained June 17th following. Sept. 1853 found Fr. Manns at Conowago. His first record of baptism at Littlestown is 1859. He attended there until 1863, and again from 1866 to 1869 jointly with Fr De Neckere. He was pastor at Hanover from 1864 to 1877, where he opened a Catholic school, and built an addition to the church. Paradise was also under his charge from time to time. Although Fr. Manns is over 82 years, he still attends to his priestly duties at Conowago where he has been for over thirty years. He is a great friend of the parochial schools. His zeal is unabated. He has followed the law of the Gospel all his life and is ready for his reward.

Francis Xavier De Neckere was born in the diocese of Bruges, Flanders, Feb. 2d, 1810. He was of noble birth and gave up

much of this world's pleasures that he might more faithfully serve his God. He became a Jesuit Sept. 16th, 1844, in Ghent. In the year 1847 he came to Conowago. His first entry of baptism at Littlestown is Feb. 18th, 1849. He seems to have been in attendance there until 1854. He returned again in 1857, when he was absent two years, at Frederick. He built the church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at New Oxford, in 1852, and served as its pastor until 1879, with a short intermission. He established a parochial school there in 1862—among the first in the county. Fr. De Neckere was also pastor of Saint Ignatius' Church, Buchanan Valley, from 1853 to 1858. He succeeded Fr. Cotting as pastor of St. Francis Xavier's at Gettysburg in 1853 to 1858. Paradise was also under his care from about 1860. When he first came to Conowago he also attended St. Patrick's at York. In all these places Fr. De Neckere is still remembered and loved. November 17th, 1861, finds him at Littlestown again where he remained until the date of his death, which occurred Jan. 4th, 1879. Thus would the world sum up the life of this devoted priest, but to us, who knew him from our earliest childhood, memory recalls many of his noble deeds. Whether as a humble teacher gathering about him at his Conowago home young men whom he sought to train for the priesthood as early as 1847, or as prefect and instructor in Latin "in a free school for girls with the Sisters, and for boys at Conowago" in 1858, or as promoter of parochial schools, his active brain worked in unison with his kind heart.

None who ever saw can forget the grandeur and magnificence with which he caused the Feast of Corpus Christi to be celebrated at Conowago. How banners, statues, emblems, flowers and wreaths added to the beauty of the procession of young



men and women and beautiful children who preceded the approach of the Blessed Sacrament while incense and prayer and music blended in honor of the Festal day. And how piously each head uncovered, and knee bent, as the Lord and Saviour was carried by holy hands from the church to the altars on the way and in the woods! How beautiful flowers were cast upon the way and fragrant perfume filled the air while the beautiful notes of the *Tantum Ergo* ascended towards the clear-blue heavens! For thus he loved to praise his Master.

Who have not seen him at the bed-side of the sick and poor pointing to his Saviour upon the cross, to recall how little our sufferings are compared with those of the World's Redeemer? Who has not heard him console the afflicted and heart-broken—speaking to them of hope and love—teaching them to call upon Mary the mother of God, whose heart was pierced with sorrow, who hears and aids all who seek her help? Recall his gentleness as he placed his hands upon the heads of your children and gave them God's blessing. Who are not proud now that they knew good Father De Neckere?

How he charmed you with his eloquent words and graceful gestures, as he warned you from the altar to avoid evil, or plead with you to become again a pure child of God!

With what grandeur he intoned the music of the mass and how sweetly fell the evening service from his lips! Prayer was ever in his heart. In the hour of triumph he prayed in gratitude, in trials for support. With him nothing was too good or grand where God's glory was concerned. Nothing too laborious to win souls.

He worked all his days for his master and died in his service. His life won for you and your children untold blessings. Let

them not forget their benefactor. After doing all he could to lead you to heaven he gave up his life upon the spot whereon God's altar is now erected. Although the sad train that followed him from his couch of death to his humble grave at Conowago has long since returned and the draped church in which he died has given place to a grander structure, let us still keep his memory fresh, and as we gather within this church let us offer a little prayer for Father De Neckere who so long and faithfully served this congregation—that he may be at rest,—and that from his home in heaven he will obtain God's blessing for us and our children.

Father George Villeger was born at Aargon, Switzerland, September 14, 1808. He entered the Society of Jesus Oct. 4, 1838. In 1843 he came to the United States, and was ordained at Georgetown College, together with Revs. Milesius Gibbons, Michael Tupper, and John Aiken, by Archbishop Eccleston, July 22, 1844. His first field was in Maryland. He came to Conowago in 1847. He was at Littlestown occasionally in 1856–7, during most of this time he was pastor at Paradise. He was pastor at Bohemia, from Sept. 1859 to 1878. On the 25th of January 1879 he came to Littlestown to take Fr. De Neckere's place, and continued as Pastor until the day of his death, September 20, 1882. He died at Conowago and is buried there. In form he was short and stout; forehead broad and high. He was a fine preacher, a good scholar and a clear controversialist. His "Letters to a Protestant Minister by a Catholic Priest," are ably written and have been printed in book form. He was an earnest and pious priest. His manner was gentle, his voice pleasant and in all he said or did he was as innocent as a child. He did no wrong and never suspected others of doing so. His

funeral was attended by the Trustees and members of St. Aloysius Church. The trustees acted as his pall-bearers.

Rev. Ignatius Renaud, S. J., is a French-Canadian of about fifty years of age. He took charge of the Littlestown Church, Sept. 17, 1882, and was its pastor until August 2, 1885. During that time he made his home with the family of Mrs. Alex. C. Shorb. Like all his predecessors his residence was at Conowago. He came on Saturday and remained until Monday, visiting the school, and also on Thursday for the same purpose. He was the last Jesuit who had charge of the congregation. He was a good preacher, and is said to have been well liked, and had a pleasant manner. He is now at the Jesuit Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

Rev. James J. Gormley was born in County Longford in the Province of Leinster, Ireland, January 6th, 1849, and was educated at St. Mels' College, Longford All Hallows, Dublin, and at Niagara University, in New York State. He was ordained at Harrisburg, Penn'a by Rt. Rev. Jeremiah F. Shannahan, Bishop of Harrisburg, on the feast of St. Andrew, Nov. 30th, 1875. In January 1876 he was appointed assistant at St. John's Church in Bellefonte, Centre county, and left there in August for Columbia. From Columbia he was sent to Lancaster, and after three months he was again sent to Columbia in 1877; thence he was sent to Drumore township, Lancaster county, to establish St. Catharine's Parish, where he remained until Nov. 1878. From this place he went to St. Patrick's Church Carlisle, Cumberland county, where at last he found a resting place for four years. Father Gormley made a great many improvements at Carlisle. He left St. Patrick's clear of debt; and with a surplus in the treasury of about \$1000 for the purpose of building

a new house. In October, 1882, he was transferred to St Joseph's Bonneauville, Adams county, Pa. He made many changes for the better in both the parochial dwelling and the church here. It was while he was pastor at this place that, in August 1884,—he was requested by Rt. Rev. Bishop Shannahan to take charge of the Littlestown parish until such time as he could get a suitable resident pastor for that place. He attended there about eight months. He was promoted to St. Joseph's Church, Renovo, Clinton county, Penn'a, May 21st, 1888, and has been there ever since. At the time of his departure Bonneauville church was entirely free from debt.

Fr. Gormley has been a faithful follower of the Apostles—his journey through life has been like unto theirs, going forth to preach the Gospel unto all nations. Wheresoever his Superior thought best to send him, he went without a protest or a murmur. Nowhere did he come without receiving a warm and hearty welcome, and from no place did he go without being followed by the prayers and good wishes of all who knew him. Like a true and loved father, he was welcomed to every home, and youth and old age alike gathered in friendship about his chair to hear his happy laugh and to see the lightness of his heart pictured in his smiling face. He is now busily engaged in erecting a magnificent church at Renovo which will cost from \$30,000 to \$40,000; the corner-stone of which was laid with great ceremony on Aug. 15th, 1892. The Clinton County *Evening News* thus speaks of Fr. Gormley in its issue of Aug. 20th, 1892: "Rev. Gormley has had charge of St Joseph's congregation since May, 1888, and in the four years of his pastorate here he has done boundless good for his people. When he came to Renovo the church was in debt several thousand dollars.

Rev. Gormley has not only paid off that debt in its entirety, but has erected the foundations of a new church at a cost of six or seven thousand dollars, every dollar of which has been paid." A priest so loved, wherever he is sent, as Fr. Gormley, must possess unusual qualities of mind and heart. We of St. Aloysius congregation of Littlestown fully appreciate his work as our first secular pastor—we being for more than a century previously served by the Jesuits—and with gratitude remember his good work among us. If it should ever happen that Fr. Gormley be called to a new field of labor, we trust his path will lead towards our homes where we can welcome him in all the fulness of our hearts as our companion and friend, who will share our joys and pleasures; as our father and guide, to whom we can go with our sorrows and troubles, knowing that his great heart will beat in sympathy with us, and that his own bright smile will make brighter our pathway through life

Rev. Thomas Joseph Crotty was born in West Hempfield Township, near Henry Clay Furnace, Lancaster county, Penn'a, October 31st, 1858. He attended the public schools until he was thirteen years of age, when he became a pupil of St. Peter's Parochial High school of Columbia, Pa., remaining there three years. At the age of sixteen years he entered St. Charles' College, Howard county, Md., where he stayed until June, 1878, when he went to St. Vincent's Monastery, Westmoreland Co., Penn'a, where he studied four years. In October, 1883, he was transferred to the Seminary at Sylvan Heights, Harrisburg, Pa., he and Francis Seubert being the two first students of that new Seminary. In a few months they were joined there by William J. Burke, Jerome Klonowski, Francis Broeckle, all of whom became priests, and by Edw. Dwyer. He was ordained June 22d,

1884, by Bishop Jeremiah J. Shannahan, being the first student ordained from Sylvan Heights, and his the first ordination that took place in the Harrisburg Cathedral, which was solemnized by a Pontifical Mass. He said his first Mass June 29th, 1884, at St. Peter's Church, Columbia. As assistant to Fr. Mark O'Neil, pastor of St. Mary's Help of Christians, Lykens, Penn'a, he remained there until March, 1885. He was appointed pastor of St. Aloysius Church, Littlestown, Pa., and entered upon his pastorate March 9th, 1885.

For a century the Catholics of Littlestown had been under the charge of the Jesuits of Conowago. It was not an easy task for a young priest to follow the pious and learned Jesuits as pastor of souls. Father Crotty surpassed all expectations, and by his true piety and constant study soon gave evidence of his fitness to follow his learned predecessors. He has reached the hearts of his parishioners and won their confidence, their love, and their gratitude. No priest is more highly esteemed, and in no congregation are priest and people more closely united in amicable relations than Fr. Crotty and his faithful flock at Littlestown. In 1887 he erected one of the finest houses in the county, which he occupies as the parochial dwelling. This was handsomely furnished and, to the credit of pastor and people, there is no debt. He has just completed a magnificent church which will stand for years as a memorial of the energy of the pastor and the generosity of his people, and as proof of their love for God and Religion.

Fr. Crotty's congregation consists of about four hundred souls. Like a true shepherd he watches with fatherly solicitude over those intrusted to his care. He has done much for their good which is visible to the eyes of men, and many things not known

to them which will bring God's blessing upon the good priest and his flock.

Basil Anthony Shorb, the son of John Shorb and Mary (Beecher) Shorb, was born in Union township, near Littlestown, Pa., October 16th, 1810. He was educated at Mt. St. Mary's College and Seminary, Emmittsburg, Md. Bishop John B. Purcell ordained him to the Priest-hood, Dec., 1834, at Cincinnati, Ohio. He remained in that State until 1842. In 1840 he was in charge of the congregations at Canal, Fulton, and Chippeway, Ohio. In 1846 we find him at St. Peter's, Columbia—1849 as pastor of Chapel, Bradford Co., and St. Bonaventura's, Susquehanna Co., Pa. In 1850 he was at St. Basil's, Sullivan Co., and Wilkesbarre Chapel, Penn'a. He was also at St. Mary's, in York, and we find him also at Chambersburg, Reading, Milton, and Towanda.

"In October 1854 the Rev. Basil Shorb became resident pastor (Summit Hill, Carbon Co., Pa.), and built a pastoral residence, so called. Its architecture was in strict accordance with the church, and would never have been attributed to Michael Angelo. Rev. Mr. Shorb found some old pecuniary claims against the church from the time of Father Hannigan, but as these were not considered strictly canonical, he defeated the claimants in the courts. In August 1858, having released the church by successful litigation, Father Shorb returned as pastor to his native place in Adams county." *U. S. Hist. Mag.*, Vol I. p. 388.

He was pastor of St. Francis Xavier's, Gettysburg, from Nov. 15th, 1858, until Feb. 24th, 1860. He was also in charge of St. Ignatius, in the Mountain, and the Immaculate Conception, Fairfield, from 1858 to Feb. 25th, 1860—they with Gettysburg forming one charge. On the 2d day of Nov. 1859, Alexander

C. Shorb—the father of Miss Sarah Shorb, Fr. Crotty's house-keeper, and of Miss Emma, the assistant school-teacher—with his wife Mary gave the lot of ground in Bonneauville on which Fr. Basil Shorb built St. Joseph's Church, mainly by his own means, and those of his relations. The corner stone was laid August 1st, 1859. Fr. Shorb became the pastor and continued so until his death, April 4th, 1871. He is buried in the cemetery attached to the church which his liberality erected. He was a very devout and charitable priest, and we trust is enjoying the reward of his faithful service.

Father Florencé J. Sullivan was born "between Littlestown, Penn'a and Taneytown, Md. \* \* He was brought up in Adams county, Penn'a, near Conowago. Fr. Lewis De Barth baptized him at Littlestown in 1823. He was at the Novitiate Frederick, a short time, and went to California in 1849, where he was ordained and has been ever since. He is at Santa Clara College, California. His mother died at Conowago in 1878, aged 84. Father Sullivan is a devoted priest, and quite a scholar. He translated the *Stabat Mater*, some hymns, psalms, and prayers for the dead. He has published a beautiful treatise on the life and virtues of St. Ignatius. He is a Jesuit. His sister, Madam Bowles, joined the Ladies of The Sacred Heart after her husbands' death, about 1840. He has another sister in the same Order at Detroit, who was born in Adams county about 1825." (Reiley's Conowago.)

Rev. James Duncan was born in York, York county, Penn'a, about 1833. When a boy of about ten years, he was, through the influence of the McAleers and that of Frs. Shorb and Dietz, taken into the family of John Shorb, Esq., of Adams county. Mr. Shorb was a very kind man and cared for young Duncan



with the affection of a father. After the death of this estimable gentleman, Mr. Duncan became in turn a member of the family of Pius P. Fink and Samuel J. Shorb. It was through the care of these gentlemen that this poor boy grew to manhood, and received the instruction which afterwards became the foundation of his clerical studies. After he had arrived at the age of maturity he left the State of his birth and entered the Confederate Army. We next find him as a student at St. Charles' College, in Maryland, and after a short course at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md., he was ordained a priest by Bishop Gibbons, now Cardinal, and sent to the South. This was about 1871. He remained there for some years; and afterwards was appointed chaplain at St. Agnes' Hospital in Baltimore. In 1885 his mind began to fail, and through the liberality of his home friends, he was cared for at Mount Hope, near Baltimore, where he died that year, and is buried.

Fr. Duncan was the son of a Protestant father and a Catholic mother. He was a member of the Littlestown Catholic Church, and much of his life was passed in that parish. He was a very meek and pious priest, doing his duty the best he knew how.

The baptismal record contains the names of J. B. Catani, 1849, Michael Haering, 1853, Al. Zanalit, 1854, Ernest Reiter and P. J. Creighton, 1856-7, George Haller, 1859, Thomas M. Sheerin, 1873, Alexius L. Jamison, 1886, D. F. Haugh, 1878, J. B. Emig, 1879 and J. A. Doonan, 1879. These were all Jesuits.

Littlestown has been fortunate in the attendance of learned and eloquent priests—as pastors and occasional visitors. Of the secular clergy there is one who for many years has been a frequent and welcome guest, and without mention of whom this

history would be incomplete. My memory pictures him as the one who gathered the children about him, at the Fair held in the school-house in 1867, and then with a twinkle in his eye cast up handfuls of candy to see them struggle for it. All who knew him then still remember kind, generous Fr. Boll. And as time has dealt lightly with him, only bringing weight and honors—his heart has grown as large as his body, and his clerical dignity has only added to his affection for Littlestown. Old and young alike know him well, and extend to him a cordial greeting. As Rural Dean he has given us his watchful care. His interest in the building of the new church has been intense. As the representative of the Rt. Rev. Bishop it was his pleasant duty to bless the bell of the new church. The beautiful memorial window which he presented stands as a proof of his liberality and affection towards the people of Littlestown. That God may bless him with health and a long life should be our wish in return for what he has done for us. We trust for many years to come, the Very Reverend Joseph A. Boll of Gettysburg will continue to be, as in the past, our constant and welcome visitor.

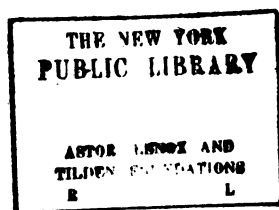
No apology is needed for introducing into this history the name of Joanna Rider. She was born in Mountpleasant township, Adams county, Pa., on Christmas day, 1843; and was baptized at Conowago Chapel, Dec. 27th, 1843, by Rev. Father Joseph Roger Dietz, S. J. Her god-mother was Eva Fisher. She was a daughter of John Rider, a farmer, and of Caroline (McSherry) Rider, a lineal descendant of Patrick McSherry, the first. Miss Joanna attended the common schools of the neighborhood in which she lived, and the catechism class attached to the Littlestown church to which she and her parents belonged, and where she was confirmed, and made her First Communion un-

der Father Michael Dougherty, S. J. She enjoyed the usual advantages of other young persons of her age and social position. Her parents were humble but respectable people and she shared with them their lot in life. Her mother died Jan. 25th, 1851, aged 31 years. About eleven years of her life were spent by Miss Rider in the family of her sister, Mrs. Charles E. Hemler, and during this period she attended St. Joseph's Church at Bonneauville. Afterwards she became a member of the family of her aunt Elizabeth, the wife of her uncle, William Rider. She assisted them in the household duties, and after the death of her aunt she became the head of her uncle's household. On his death, May 4th, 1887, she was made his residuary legatee of about forty thousand dollars.

Her uncle's confidence was not misplaced. From the time she had the benefit of his bounty, his niece devoted much of her wealth to charitable purposes. It is no longer a secret that she has given over \$10,000 towards building the new church of St. Aloysius which has just been completed through her generosity. Her heart is easily touched by the appeal of the poor and distressed, and she is known far and wide as a liberal contributor to benevolent objects. She lives in a modest house in the borough of Littlestown and seldom appears upon the streets unless upon some errand of charity or religion. In her manner she is very unassuming, and only values her money by the amount of good that it will purchase for others, and the greater love it will acquire for Religion and God. She is small in stature, but her greatness consists in her charity and good deeds.



REV. THOMAS J. CROTTY.



## MEMORIALS AND OBITUARIES.

Patrick McSherry was born in Ireland in 1725. He married Catharine Gartland, of Armagh. They emigrated to America about 1760. Patrick became a large land owner. In 1763 he bought the land on which McSherrystown, which he laid out that year, is now built. He was then living in Mountpleasant township. In a deed given in 1765 he calls himself a farmer. He owned lots Nos. 15, 16 and 17 on King street, Petersburg, (Littlestown) in 1765, the year it was laid out. It would seem that he was a man of some importance, and certainly was a trusted patriot in the cause of Independence, for he was a member of "The Committee of Safety" for York county, appointed Nov. 3d, 1774. He was one of the trustees to whom the property was conveyed in 1791 on which the first Catholic Church of Littlestown was located. He was a merchant there in his later years. He was the father of Edward, Mary, John, Patrick, Barnabas, Catharine, Hugh, Val, Else, Joseph, James and Sarah,

He died July 13th, 1795, and was buried at Conowago. His remains were afterwards removed to Littlestown and interred beside those of his wife. He was 70 years of age. His wife Catharine died Nov. 7th, 1813, and is buried at Littlestown.

Some friendly hand penned the following obituary which appeared in the *Gettysburg Centinel*: "Departed this life on the 7th inst. (1813) in the seventy-third year of her age, Mrs. McSherry of Petersburg, Adams county—mother of our present worthy representative in the State Legislature. She was a lady of exemplary Christian and moral virtues. May the souls of the faithful rest in peace, amen."

"Died in Littlestown on Saturday evening the 15th inst, in the 55th year of his age Dr. Ephraim Davis, an able and skillful physician for many years. He lived respected and died lamented, leaving a disconsolate widow and a family of children to bewail their irreparable loss. He died with Christian peace and tranquillity of mind, with resignation to the will of his Heavenly Father and trusting entirely to the mercy of a crucified Saviour for salvation and acceptance with God. His remains were interred in the Catholic burying ground, attended by a large assembly of friends and acquaintances who tenderly sympathized with the weeping relatives and gave every testimony in their power of their respect for his character."—Communication in *Gettysburg Compiler*, Oct. 25th, 1831.

He was the father of Mrs. Catharine Grover, Mrs. Louisa J. Shorb, and sister Ann Alexius and Annie E. Donahue (wife of Patrick—editor of *Pilot*). He was a trustee of the church as early as 1818, and continued so until his death.

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John Shorb was born Feb. 7th, 1814. He was the son of Anthony Shorb, who married Miss O'Bold. He was a farmer, and married Miss Mary Beecher. They were the parents of Basil A., (the priest) Joseph L., Alexander C., Samuel J., Edward, Matilda M., (who married Pius P. Fink) Sallie and Joanna. He was a Justice of the Peace for many years. In 1823 he was elected as County Commissioner. After the death of his wife, Mary, he married Mrs. Susan Stonesifer and they had one son, James E., a prominent business man of St. Louis.

His wife Mary died Feb. 15, 1835 ; both she and her husband are buried at Littlestown. Mr. Shorb was a very honest and kind man. He was for many years a trustee of the Church.

He died Feb. 5, 1847. His children all became useful members of society and prominent in their respective callings.

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"When a good man dies, the sorrow of those who mourn his loss is sweetened and consoled by the hope that he has passed from the trials and tribulations of this world to the enjoyment of eternal peace and joy in the next. If a whole life, reaching beyond three score years and ten, spent in the devout practice of the duties of his religion ; if a charity as broad as the sorrows and sufferings of his neighbors ; if a purity of heart as stainless as that of a child ; if prudence, if humility, if justice to all, can give evidence of a heart worshiping God in truth and sincerity, and of final perseverance to the end, then is the soul of the deceased with God. Such, in one word, was the character of James M'Sherry. All who knew him loved and respected him ; this love and this respect he won for himself by his blameless life, his kindness of heart, his forgiving disposition, his noble frankness, and his sterling honesty. Whatever part in life was confided to him, he made it a solemn duty to perform diligently and well. He had the almost unbounded confidence of his fellow citizens. It was not won by eloquence, for he was no orator ; it was not won by the arts of popularity—he used none but his good deeds. It was the willing tribute of those who knew him, to his innate worth.

"He was born on the 29th of July, 1776, in the neighborhood where he lived and died. At the age of 31, he was elected to the Legislature of the State by the people of Adams county, and his business habits and the confidence of the people secured his re-election six times in succession, until the year 1813 when he was chosen by the people of York and Adams counties to



represent them in the Senate of the State. The result of his election proved that the esteem of his fellow citizens rose above party, in the warmest party times. Mr. M'Sherry was a Federalist. York county had then recently given a Democratic majority of nearly 1,800 for Gov. Snyder, while the usual Federal majority of Adams county was seldom over eight or ten hundred: yet such was his popularity in the upper part of York county and in the Borough of York, as well as in Adams, that he overcame the immense disparity, and was returned to the Senate. He remained in the Senate four years until 1817. Whilst a member of the Senate and free from militia duty, when Baltimore was menaced by a foreign foe, he volunteered as a private in the Rev. Mr. M'Clean's Company of Horse, which was raised in Gettysburg, and remained with the troop in service until he was discharged.

"After ten years of uninterrupted application to the duties of a Senator and Legislator, he retired to enjoy the happiness of a domestic life, having married in June 1816. In 1821 he was elected to Congress from the district composed of the counties of Adams, Franklin, Cumberland and Perry, which he faithfully represented until the year 1823. In 1824, he was again returned to the State Legislature as a delegate from Adams county, where he served for six successive years. He was again elected to that office in 1834-5 and 1835-6. As the last and crowning proof of the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, he was chosen, with Thaddeus Stevens, Esq., to represent Adams county in the Convention which met and sat in Harrisburg and afterwards in Philadelphia, in the year 1837-38, to reform the Constitution of the State. Upon the adjournment of this body, he determined to retire from public life, conscious that he had

fulfilled the part of an upright man and good citizen, and no solicitations could afterwards induce him to accept any nomination. He spent the last years of his life in a constant preparation to meet his God, as his preceding years had been passed in the endeavor to fulfil His commands. He withdrew from all business to look into his own heart and purify it for the awful change from life to death, which he felt must soon await him. When that hour came, perhaps it had few terrors for him ; at least it had its consolations. How comforting, then, was it not for him to look back over a long life spent in doing good to those around him, in succoring the distressed, in comforting the afflicted, in performing faithfully the duties of his station as legislator, citizen, husband, father, friend, and, most of all, as a Christian ? On Friday, the 26th of January, he was attacked by asthma ; and on Saturday, the 3d of February, at a few minutes before eight o'clock, P. M., having received the last consolations of his religion, he passed gently to repose, without pain and without a struggle, having conferred his blessing upon his children and grand-children and bequeathed to them the richest legacy on earth, a name untarnished and the unblemished character of three and seventy years of life well spent. *May he rest in peace.*"

The above was published as a communication in the *Gettysburg Centinel*, Feb 1843. His funeral services were conducted by clergymen from Conowago and Mt. St. Mary's College.

On the day of his funeral all places of business were closed at his late home, and his neighbors and friends all came to pay their last tribute of love and respect to him whom they loved in life and kindly remembered in death. His memory still lives and his good deeds are not forgotten.

Joseph A. Shorb, M. D., was born in York county, Penn'a. He was a son of Anthony Shorb. He married Miss Louisa J. Davis. They were the parents of fourteen children, among whom were Mrs. Maria L. Kinzer, Dr. Ed. F. Shorb of Washington, and J. Augustus Shorb of Hagerstown. The last two are the only living children.

Dr. Shorb was for many years a trustee of the Littlestown Church; and took an active part in the building of the church of 1841. He was a distinguished and successful physician and practiced his profession in Littlestown for over thirty-five years. He died September 25, 1855, aged 62 years 6 months 6 days, and was buried at Littlestown in his vault; which was the first erected there.

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"On the 2d instant Dr. S. G. Kinzer, of Littlestown, died aged 26 years 4 months and 26 days. His loss will be deeply felt by his many warmly attached friends.

Too soon has the day of his destiny passed,  
But we'll dream of its brilliancy on to the last;  
And tho' the young sun of his talents be set,  
Its rays seem to linger and shine 'round us yet.

Communication in *Compiler*, May 11th, 1863, signed J. H., Emmittsburg.

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"Died at her residence, in Littlestown, on Sunday morning, Jan. 23d, 1870, Mrs. Maria L. Kinzer, widow of the late Dr. Samuel G. Kinzer, and daughter of Dr. Joseph A. Shorb, deceased. When the death of this amiable lady was announced to one of here friends, his exclamation was, "who will supply Mrs. Kinzer's place?" How true! Who will supply her place in

her devoted love and fondness for her dear orphan boy? Who will supply her place in her almost motherly care and affection for her beloved brothers? Who will supply her place when friends and acquaintances look for that sweet, pleasant smile which was ever ready to welcome their approach? Who will supply her place in her kind words to the suffering, and in her generous charity to the poor? And Oh! Who will supply her place in the pious zeal with which she at all times labored to adorn the house of the Lord and the altar whereon his glory dwelleth?

"She will be sadly missed indeed! But may we not hope that God will bless the many lessons of virtue and religion instilled by her into the youthful heart of her boy, and that the sacred fidelity with which she always discharged her religious duties will be doubly rewarded both in herself and others by the good example she has left them? Mrs. Kinzer was distinguished for her genuine sincerity, for her kind and generous disposition; these gained for her the esteem of all who knew her, remarkably manifested by the crowds of sympathizing friends who came to take a last fond look on her whom they so tenderly loved when living, and with tearful eyes and sorrowing hearts joined in paying the last tribute of respect to her memory.

"Friend of many years, farewell! Though gone from us, the recollections of your many virtues, of your many acts of kind charity and love will ever remain with us a sweet memento of the past!

"Fond mother, dear sister, sincere friend, farewell!"—Communication in *Compiler*, Jan. 1870.

Dr. John Shorb Kinzer of Littlestown, died of physical prostration on Friday, the 8th instant, aged 26 years 7 months and 26 days. He was the son of Dr. Samuel G. Kinzer and Maria Shorb; received a thorough education at Mt. St. Mary's College, graduating with the highest honors of his class in 1881, (June 26th, 1878.) Three years later (March 3d, 1881) he obtained his diploma in medicine from the University of Maryland. He subsequently commenced practice in Littlestown and continued until his death, having his home from early youth in the family of Hon. William McSherry, his guardian. The remains were interred in the new Catholic Cemetery of Littlestown yesterday, the attendance being very large. His loss by death is the first among the membership of the Alpha Fire Company. Dr. Kinzer was a bright, genial and kind-hearted gentleman and will long be remembered for his generous acts."—*Compiler* July 12, 1887.

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We are pained to announce the death of Joseph Fink, Esq., which occurred somewhat suddenly at his residence at Littlestown, on Wednesday morning last. Mr. Fink was a leading citizen of the county, few enjoying a larger measure of general respect. He occupied a seat in the Board of County Commissioners about twenty years ago, and filled the office in a most acceptable manner. Living respected, he died lamented. May he rest in peace.—*Compiler*, Nov. 5, 1866.

He was the son of Henry Fink and Magdalena Henry. He was a farmer. He married Esther Parr and they were the parents of Pius P., Joseph, Sylvester, Henry and Margaret L., (wife of James G. Spalding). He was a Justice of the Peace for many years; County Auditor in 1833, and County Commissioner in 1845. He died Oct. 31, 1866, aged 71 years.

"Died on the 26th of February last, at Ash Grove, Adams county, Penn'a, Henry Spalding, Esq., in the 78th year of his age.

"When one is taken from our midst who during a long life has been an example, to those who knew him, of every virtue which should adorn the Christian, it is fit and proper that some tribute should be paid to his memory. Henry Spalding was born in Frederick county, Md., on the 2d day of September, 1789, and resided in Adams county, Pa., for nearly forty years. During that long period by his kind and gentle manners, by his noble and generous disposition, by his unostentatious charities to the poor, by his heart-felt sympathy and aid ever freely given wherever there was difficulty or distress, he gained for himself the love and affection of all who knew him.

"Though for the past few years infirmities of years and failing health rapidly weakened his strength, yet no one approached him without meeting from him a kind and cheerful smile of welcome. His words were truth, and the man has not lived who guarded more sacredly the trust committed to his charge than did Henry Spalding. As a man, he was upright and honest; as a father of loving children, kind and affectionate, and he carried with him to the grave a character of which they may well be proud. But in the hour of trial and grief, their comfort and consolation is that during his long life he was exact and conscientious, even to the moment of his death in the faithful discharge of those duties and obligations imposed upon him by that church of which he was such an edifying member. "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord." May he rest in peace.—Communication in *Compiler*, March 18th, 1867.

For many years he was a director in the Bank of Gettysburg, and the Superintendent of the Gettysburg and Petersburg Turnpike. He was a good scholar and wrote several stories for the local papers. He was an incorporator of the church in 1850, and a trustee for many years before and after that date.

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"To the memory of Mrs. Eliza T. McSherry, wife of William McSherry, Esq., of Littlestown, Pa., and daughter of our venerated fellow citizen, Dr. McSherry of Martinsburg. The recent death of this excellent lady who departed this life, on the 25th day of March, at her residence near Littlestown, has carried sorrow to the hearts of many of our citizens who knew her in her youthful days, who have always rejoiced to welcome her, in her visits to her native place. She was best known to those who could remember her fine acquirements as a scholar and who had the opportunities of tracing her up through life as wife, mother, daughter and friend. She was modest, retiring, while dignified and quiet in her manners and deportment. Her 'voice was not heard in the streets,' her presence not found in the scenes of gaiety and dissipation, but she was a fair and faithful example of the wise matron so beautifully portrayed in the last chapter of the book of Proverbs. 'She opened her mouth with wisdom and in her tongue was the law of kindness.' She has left nine children,—'They rise up and call her blessed,'—'her husband also, and he praiseth her.'

"She died as she lived—calm, self-poised, resting upon her God and Saviour, and desiring, when she inquired and was told she would probably die, that nothing of worldly care or concern should interfere with her holy meditations and last devotions.

She was a consistent member of the church of her fathers—The Roman Catholic Church—and died in that Communion.

“One of her neighbors once told a near relative of hers (whom he did not know to be related to her): ‘Mrs. McSherry! ah, yes, she always *makes peace* wherever she goes’—and now in a higher sense, may she rest in peace, Amen!”—From the Martinsburg *New Era*, April 2d, 1868.

Mrs. McSherry did not need the aid of her distinguished ancestry to win for herself the admiration and love of those who knew her. Her intelligence, beauty, refinement, and kindness of heart indicated superior origin. She was of a family distinguished for service to church and state. On her father's side she was a descendant of Samuel Lilly, the first, who came from Bristol, England, and settled in Conowago, Penn'a, in 1730; her mother's ancestry goes back to the days of Charles Calvert, Lord Baltimore, to whom they were related. She was the daughter of Richard McSherry, the second, a distinguished physician, of Martinsburg, Virginia, and Ann Catharine King, a daughter of George King, a prominent merchant, of Georgetown, D. C. She was born in Martinsburg, Jan. 5th, 1827. Her mother died when her daughter was about ten years old. She was educated at the Academy of the Visitation, Georgetown, D. C., where she graduated. On Tuesday, October 15th, 1844, she was married to Wm. McSherry, (not a relative), a young lawyer, of Adams county, Pa. He was then twenty-three, and she was not yet eighteen years of age. If any marriage was ever happy and perfect, this one was. Both parties were young, well educated, and of high social standing. The young wife, yet blushing from her graduating honors, was beautiful in her bridal array. Her every movement, full of grace, added charm



to her rounded form. Intelligence and affection beamed from her dark eyes; and her black hair gracefully encircled her fair brow, while the blush of health added beauty to her dimpled cheeks. Her many charms, with her youth and beauty, at once gained for her many friends in her new Pennsylvania home. Her practical charity, so quietly bestowed, soon won for her the friendship of the poor and needy. For nearly a quarter of a century no domestic trial had come to mar the pleasure of those two who had started out together to share the joys and sorrows of life. She, who had come to the happy home with the flowers of May but three short years ago, was with the roses of June to fade and die. Lilly was the youngest child and yet the first to be called away. She joined the Angels, June 18th, 1866. The mother's grief was too deep for human consolation; but mother and child were not long to be separated. Death too soon called again to break up the once happy home. Amid the snows of March, 1868, the 25th,—the anniversary of Gabriel's salutation to the Virgin Mary, "blessed art thou among women,"—the angel child welcomed its sainted mother to everlasting happiness.

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"Died on Saturday the 20th inst. at the residence of his son-in-law, in Mount Pleasant township, Adams county, Mr. Jacob \* Baumgardner, aged 82 years, 5 months and 20 days. We sorrowfully mourn the death of a kind and affectionate father, \* \* A midnight pall has cast a shadow over our hearts, which cannot be dispelled; but we must say farewell, and leave him rest where the pale moonbeams are shining gently over his much loved grave where our dear father is sleeping—in the time-honored grave-yard in Littlestown where our other dear relatives

and friends now rest in peace."—B. F. Hagarman, in *Compiler*, March 26th, 1869.

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"Rev. F. X. Deneckere, S. J., died at Littlestown, where he had gone in discharge of his ministerial duties, on Wednesday the 8th inst., at 5 o'clock, P. M. The deceased was born in Belgium, Feb. 3d, 1810, came to this country nearly forty years ago, and in 1848 was sent to Conowago Church where he resided almost uninterruptedly ever since. His duties as missionary priest called him to nearly every portion of this county where in he was widely known and universally respected. Father Deneckere was gifted with talents of a very high order trained and cultivated by life-long study; as a pulpit orator he had few equals, and withal he was thoroughly and sincerely devoted to the work to which his life was given up. His remains were interred at Conowago Church on Friday morning the 11th inst., in the presence of a large concourse of people assembled to pay the last tribute of respect and affection to the memory of him who had labored for them without ceasing throughout so many silent years; whose labor for them, indeed, only ended with his life."—*Compiler*, Jan. 16th, 1879.

"Death of Father Deneckere. Epiphany, 1879, Rev. F. X. Deneckere sick at Littlestown; Father Enders went up to see him. Saturday, Jan. 4th, 1879, was a piercing cold day—raining, blowing and freezing. Father Enders Superior did not want Father Deneckere to go, but he drove to Littlestown, and was nearly frozen when he got there. He lost his way or was confused and benumbed by the icy rain and cold; and stopping to ask the road, would not allow those who directed him to go along and drive, saying it was too cold for them to be out. He

would not remain with any of his congregation at Littlestown, but went to the church where he had his sleeping apartment in one of the sacristies. There he was found sick and was properly cared for. Father Enders arrived the next day and administered the Sacraments. He died Wednesday, Jan. 8th, 1879. His remains were put in a neat coffin and placed before the altar. Thursday afternoon he was taken to Conowago, and interred in a vault under the altar Friday morning at 9 o'clock during High Mass of Requiem. Father Casey said the Mass and Father Enders made a few remarks. \* \* \* He would fulfil the dying request of the late beloved Father, namely to beg for him of the congregation and all with whom he came in contact during his life, pardon for any offence he may have given them, and to ask all to pray for him.

"Father Deneckere was a devoted teacher, and though advised by his superior to give up his school on account of his increasing age and infirmities, he would not, but gave lessons yet to one poor boy even up to his death. He loved his school next to his sacred calling, saying that if he gained one addition to the priesthood, all his labors would be fully repaid.

"Eternal rest give unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him! May he rest in peace. Rev. F. X. Deneckere was a student all his life, and while he taught his boys at Conowago, he himself took lessons in German from Father Enders, to perfect himself more in that language. Besides French, his mother-tongue, he spoke English and Latin as well, and was a good Greek scholar.—Reily's Conowago, p. 175.

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Among the oldest families of the Littlestown congregation is that of Rider. Paul Rider was a trustee of the church as early

as 1819. He had been preceded by Jacob Rider, who was the father of William the subject of this sketch.

William Rider was born in Adams county, Pa., Jan. 20, 1814. He was a farmer, and in early life married Elizabeth Weirick. Their only child, Sylvester, died in early manhood. Mr. Rider was an industrious man and a careful manager. He was for twenty years a director in the Littlestown Savings Institution, having been one of its founders in 1867. He was also a director of the Littlestown Railroad Company. For many years he was a trustee of the Catholic Church at Littlestown, and held that position at the time of his death, May 4, 1887. His funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. T. J. Crotty assisted by Rev. J. J. Gormley, and he was buried in the Catholic Cemetery at Littlestown. He was quite well off, and left the bulk of his estate to his niece, Miss Joanna Rider, who is devoting much of it to charitable purposes.

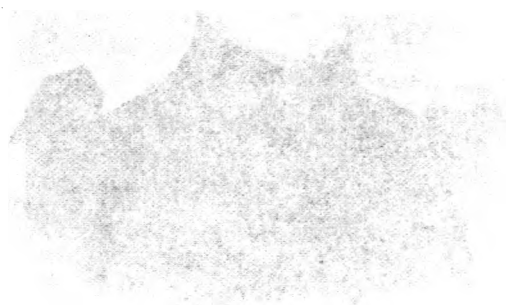
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Death of Mrs. Louisa Long. None who knew Louisa McSherry as she grew from childhood to womanhood can forget the beauty of her face and the gentleness of her manner. No wonder that the young plasterer, Andrew Long, sought her in marriage as the choice of his heart. To the young seamstress the world appeared bright as she started out in the battle of life with her young husband, and so for years it was. But time brought sorrows and trials. One by one her loved children were called away and laid to rest in the humble Catholic burying ground. The mother's heart was almost broken, and yet she did not murmur at her loss, for she knew their pure souls were with God offering up their prayers that she might some day join them. This was her wish and so she went through

life, doing her duty well, and, thus while mourning for the dead, she never forgot to care for those who were left to her. She was ever faithful to her religion and observed its precepts unto the end. Like her husband she had come from old and respectable stock. She was the daughter of Andrew McSherry and Eve Norbeck, his wife. She married Andrew Long in 1844 ; and although he was not of her faith, she had all her children baptized in the Catholic Church, and those who are dead now lie by her side in the Catholic Cemetery where she is buried, having died May 6, 1891, aged 75 years. May she rest in peace. She was never possessed of much worldly wealth and yet she left to her children a legacy of untold worth—a life well spent, an example of patience in trials, confidence in God, fidelity to duty, which, if followed by them, will again unite father and mother and children in Heaven.

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“Died on Wednesday, Feb. 10th, 1892 of pneumonia, Mrs. Matilda Starr, beloved wife of A. P. Starr, and mother of Mary Alverta Barker, Sarah Virginia Starr, and Wm. F. Starr. She had been sick but a few days, and relatives and friends were indulging the fond hope that she would soon be well. God willed otherwise. Hope of returning health faded from the hearts of dear ones as they sorrowfully watched the progress of the fever weakening the delicate frame. In the early hours of Wednesday morning, noiselessly, hovering over the prostrate body, lately anointed by the sacred rites of God’s Holy Church, came the angel of death, whispering to the soul, fortified by the reception of Holy Communion, ‘Come, Christian soul, to the reward promised to those who love and serve God.’ Surrounded by the members of the family, she expired without a struggle.



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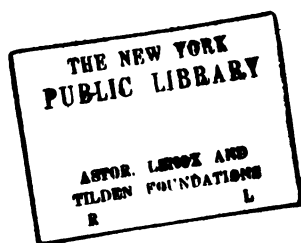
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MISS JOANNA RIDER.





'Her guardian angel came, he struck God's lightning from her eyes, and bore him back the flame.' Mrs. Starr was loved by all, like all true Christian mothers, at home is where she was loved the best, and where her character shone the brightest. She was the household adored, and loved one; here is where she will be most missed, and here is where her memory will last longest, to be an inspiration to virtue for her husband and children; especially that of self-sacrifice. In the name of her friends we tender our heartfelt condolence to her bereaved husband, her much grieved children, her sorrowing relatives, and join the prayer that the soul of their beloved parent and sister may meet forever in the peace of the Beloved. Her age was almost seventy years. The funeral took place from St. Aloysius Church, Friday morning at 9 o'clock. Interment at St. Aloysius cemetery, near town."—Communication in the *Adams County Independent*, Feb. 13th, 1892.

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"In remembrance of Joseph L. Shorb, Esq., who died at his residence in Littlestown on Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, May 22nd, after a very long illness, borne with Christian resignation, aged 80 years, 2 months and 3 days.

"When death takes from a community a person whose entire life, of more than four score years, has been passed in the centre of that community, and who has been a prominent character thereof, from the days of youth to a ripe old age, loved, honored and respected by all who have known him, it is but just and proper that some slight tribute should be paid to his memory. Any words of praise, any eulogy upon the virtues and good qualities of the deceased can be of no avail to him now, as he rests in his cold, silent grave; but the recollection of the recti-

tude of purpose which governed and directed all his actions, of his high and honorable sense of right and wrong, and of his earnest maintenance of correct principles, which gained for him the respect and love of admiring friends, may and should induce those who survive him to follow his example. In the discharge of all his duties, whether they related to the church of which he was a most exemplary member, whether in the discharge of duties of public office entrusted to him by his fellow citizens, or in the fulfillment of the various duties of life, which brought him in contact with all classes of society, he was strictly precise and honest in every particular. An enemy to deception and fraud of any kind, wherever he saw an indication of it, he hesitated not to prevent it, if possible, with scathing rebuke; and yet he had a kind and sympathizing heart, for when difficulties arose between neighbors and unkind angry passions threatened worrying law-suits and brought them before him, in his official capacity, this just and honest magistrate, with kindness of heart and love of peace and good will which neighbors should entertain towards each other, appealed to their better judgments and by the reasoning of his good, sound, solid sense, curbed their bitter feelings towards each other, persuaded them to settle their difficulties and induced those who had entered his office as angry foes, to depart as friends. He was kind and charitable to the poor and distressed, not for the purpose of show and display, but actuated by the very best of motives, and if the number of these acts of charity were written down and exhibited to the world it would doubtless cause surprise to many of his most intimate friends and acquaintances.

"Joseph L. Shorb was born and reared on the farm owned by his father, John Shorb, in Union township, Adams county, Pa.,

and was engaged in farming operations, very efficiently and successfully, for a period of more than forty years. On the 14th of April, 1846, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Union township for five years, by Francis R. Shunk, one of Pennsylvania's most distinguished Governors. After the expiration of this term of office, having discharged the duties of his appointment with such universal satisfaction to the public, he was re-elected term after term, to serve them in this capacity for a period of forty years.

"Whenever his services could be secured he was called upon to act as executor, administrator, guardian or trustee for the settlement of estates, and the just and faithful manner in which he fulfilled all these trusts proved that these confidences were not misplaced. The late learned and holy Bishop Shanahan, of Harrisburg, relied so much upon his sound judgment and discreet management that he did not hesitate to give him the entire control and supervision of a plantation on the Susquehanna River, above Harrisburg, which had been bequeathed to the church by one of the members of his Diocese. He was often-times solicited by the political party of which he was a prominent and influential member, to become a candidate for a seat in the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and on several occasions was strongly urged to accept the nomination for Associate Judge of the county. He firmly refused to accept any of these positions. He was always active and zealous in the organization of all undertakings which were expected to result in the welfare and prosperity of the public. He took a prominent part in the building of the Littlestown Railroad, and was a director of the company from its organization to the time of its passing into the hands of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, a period of

more than thirty years. He was also much interested in the establishment of the Littlestown Savings Institution, and acted as president thereof for eighteen years, and at the time of his death was one of the trustees of the St. Aloysius Catholic Church. In the discharge of the various duties of these positions on every occasion he displayed that energy of character and strict adherence to honorable principle, which so forcibly marked every act of his life.

"During his severe illness of many years, and almost up to the hour of his death, he took a deep interest in public affairs and displayed much anxiety for the welfare of his country and his fellowmen.

"He was an earnest and devout Catholic; devoted to his religion and never ashamed or afraid to acknowledge the faith of his forefathers. Human respect had no place in his heart, for the writer of this humble tribute has seen him on several occasions, when preparing for the night's rest, whilst away from his home in company of others, some of whom were strangers to him, kneeling down by the side of his bed, thanking Almighty God for his mercies during the day and asking His protection for the night. During his illness, as when in health, he regularly received the Holy Sacraments of the church and when the last hour came, having received the last consoling rites of his holy religion, with hopes resting on the mercies of his Lord, he died in peace with God and man. During his long illness he was patiently nursed and soothed in his pains and sufferings by his loving sisters, devoted brother, and many sympathizing relatives and friends.

The funeral services took place on Tuesday, May 24. Requiem Mass was sung by the Rev. Father Crotty, pastor of St.

Aloysius Church, who had most faithfully attended him during his illness.

"The Right Rev. Bishop McGovern, of Harrisburg, Very Rev. Joseph A. Boll, of Gettysburg, Rev. Father Shanahan, of Harrisburg, Father McBride, of Bonneauville and Father Hooman, of St. Joseph's Church, Hanover, were present as a mark of respect to their departed friend. His remains were conveyed to and interred in the cemetery of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, accompanied by a large number of true sympathizing friends.

"The funeral discourse was preached by Bishop McGovern. It was beautiful and impressive ; intended rather for the living than the dead, and yet no higher praise and no more beautiful eulogy could be bestowed upon any one than was passed upon the deceased when the Bishop said, 'In my intercourse with Joseph L. Shorb I always found him a saintly, upright man, who walked in the ways of God.' No grander or more consoling epitaph can be engraven on the tablet erected to the memory of Joseph L. Shorb, than those beautiful words. May he rest in peace.

A FRIEND."

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CONGREGATION.

The congregation has been, as a rule, composed of men and women in humble life. Most of them followed farming, and yet nearly all the trades and occupations have been filled by some of them. In early days education was not as general as at present. The introduction of the Catholic schools has done much to advance the intellectual and social standing of members of the Catholic Church. The older families of the congregation by thrift have obtained for themselves many comforts and advantages that their fathers did not possess. The

members of St. Aloysius congregation are yet poor, but most of them own their own homes, and are industrious and contented. What they lack in the goods of this world they make up by their fidelity to their duties as Catholics and citizens.

Liberality towards the support of religion and devotion to their church have always been among their good qualities.

While this applies to nearly all, tradition and history have handed down the names of the following who are entitled to special mention as benefactors: Mathias Baker and Mary his wife, who in 1791 gave the lot of ground for the nominal sum of \$1.22, which was afterwards sold for church purposes for \$60.06; Mrs. Catharine McSherry, who gave among other things, her white silk wedding dress which was made into church vestments and used as late as 1862—she died, 1813. James McSherry, Sarah Will, and Dr. Ephraim Davis, who each gave silver candlesticks; James McSherry, Jr., who painted and donated the altar piece—a large oil painting 5x7 feet—The Crucifixion; Samuel Baumgardner, a liberal donor; Henry Eckenrode, of Berwick township who bequeathed \$100 in 1846; Samuel Weirich, who gave a legacy of \$50 to the church in 1856; George W. Lawrence of Mt. Joy township, whose bequest under his will of 1860 of \$1000 amounted to \$565.29, was paid 1888, and Anna Mary Staub, of Littlestown, from whose estate \$743.50 was received in 1892.

There may be many others whose gifts and names are unknown. Besides these a reference to the preceding pages will show great liberality on the part of the past and present members who have contributed so generously towards the erection and maintenance of church and school.

Among the most distinguished members who are now dead

were Patrick McSherry, James McSherry) who was an honor to his church and country) Joseph Fink, Joseph L. Shorb and Wm. Rider. The congregation has produced a number of citizens distinguished in their walks of life. Among those who became physicians are Ephraim Davis, Joseph A. Shorb, John Grover, Wm. Guinn, E. F. Shorb, Samuel G. Kinzer, Richard McSherry, John S. Kinzer, Basil J. Shorb, and E. K. Foreman, who is now the only Catholic physician in the congregation. C. E. Eckenrode and John W. Hickey were dentists, the latter now at Littlestown. The lawyers were James McSherry, Jr., William McSherry, and William McSherry, Jr. Some of the business men are Joseph Fink, John A. Shorb, Bernard and Joseph Bauhaus, Wm. Kuhns, J. Augustus Smith, H. A. and Howard Spalding, and A. J. Smith. The farming community embraces Peter Neiderer, Andrew Kuhn, Jr., Joseph H. Kuhn, Wm. A. Smith, Joseph A. Eckenrode, Eli Eckenrode, Levi Murrin, Pius P. Fink, George L. Sneeringer, Basil P. Fink, Pius Hemler, Edward Kuhn, Henry Rider, Edward A. Groft, James G. Spalding, John W. Hemler, Henry W. Budy, Andrew Kuhn, Pius L. Kuhn, Sylvester Aumen, Francis Arentz, Aloysius Marshall, John Budy, and others. Among the mechanics are James Cretin, John W. Eline, John F. McSherry, George W. Steffy, James R. McSherry, Peter Rider, James D. Spalding, Peter Gouker, Francis Eline, John Ulrick, John H. Eline, Edward M. Spalding and Wm. F. Eline. Peter Grau is gate keeper for Gettysburg and Petersburg Turnpike Co. Miss Magdalene Weaver joined the Sisters of St. Joseph, and became Superioress at McSherrystown in 1868, Madam Bowles (Miss Sullivan) became a Sister of the Sacred Heart, Sallie Ann Davis, daughter of Ephraim Davis was a sister of Charity, known as Sr. Mary Gregory, Harriet C. Shorb



became Sister Ann Alexis, Miss Emily Fink was a Sister of Charity, known as Sister Emiline, Miss Tillie Martin is now Sister Norberta, and a Miss Ulrick is also a member of a religious order.

The Priests were Florence J. Sullivan, who was baptized by Fr. De Barth at Littlestown, 1823, Basil A. Shorb and James Duncan. There are at present studying, with the view of becoming priests, Martin Steffy and Edward J. Spalding.

As is usual in country congregations, many of its members are obliged to seek new homes and fields of labor. This has been so of this one. Among its former members who have become distinguished in their calling in life are Sylvester and Joseph Fink, prominent merchants in Baltimore, John A. McSherry, Austin J. Kuhns, and Joseph Kuhns of the same city; James Shorb, of St. Louis, Joseph Kuhns (of Paul) of New York City; James McSherry, a distinguished lawyer and author, of Frederick, J. V. Eckenrode and Edmond F. Smith of Maryland, J. Augustus Shorb of Hagerstown, Dr. E. F. Shorb of Washington, Wm. and Francis O'Bold of the same place, Jacob Klunk, Esq., who was elected sheriff of this county in 1869, and died in 1885.

There was one who, in her way, for more than a half century, was a benefactor to many of the congregation of St. Aloysius. This was Miss Fanny Weems who taught a private school, and had for her pupils the children of two generations. She has long since been called to her reward.

The family which has furnished the most prominent members of those who were once attendants at the Littlestown Church, is that of William and Mary Shriver of the Union Mills, Md.

Mrs. Shriver passed her childhood in Littlestown, and has

always had a warm affection for the town and church of her youth. Her maiden name was Mary Owings, and she sprung from good old Catholic stock. Her husband was a descendant of the Schriters, who were the earliest settlers of the vicinity of Littlestown. He was of a Protestant family, but became a devout and sincere member of the church of his wife. Among their children there was not one who did not attain prominence. Many of them were baptized at Littlestown, and they, too, have pleasant associations with this place. Benjamin F. and Herbert are among the largest canners of fruit of the country. The latter has also been highly honored in public life by his election to the Maryland Senate. John and William were well known and respected, while Columbus is President of the Metropolitan Bank of Baltimore, and Keyser is a prominent business man of the same city.

Of the daughters Emma is a sister of Charity, and Mollie and Sallie are doing their life's work well making all around them as happy as themselves.

Although the dear old mother has seen more than eighty summers, she still presides with charming hospitality over the homestead at Union Mills, and receives the visitor with a sweet smile and a cordial welcome to her model Catholic home.

It would be a pleasure to follow each member present and past of the congregation in their path through life, but want of knowledge and lack of space forbid.

There is only one place where all will be known of the congregation of St. Aloysius and may God grant that we may all meet there—in Heaven.

## THE DEDICATION.

Within eight months after the work began, skilled laborers had erected out of the materials furnished by a generous people, the beautiful church of St. Aloysius.

All admired its architecture ; and while the exterior charmed the eye, the interior also touched the heart. But as yet it was only a beautiful building. The ceremonies which would change it from an ordinary edifice into a Temple of the Living God were yet to be performed. The day of dedication at last arrived. On Wednesday, January 25th, 1893, the morning sun painted the eastern sky with golden splendor. The sweet-toned bell of St. Aloysius rang out its glad notes upon the frosty morning air summoning all to leave their daily labor and come to witness the dedication of a new church to the service of their Heavenly Father.

Soon after 10 o'clock the beautiful ceremony began. The Right Reverend Thomas McGovern, Bishop of Harrisburg, clothed in his purple cassock, entered the church from the parsonage and passed up the right-hand aisle followed by the clergy, in black cassocks, carrying on their left arm white surplices, viz : Very Rev. James J. Russell, V. F. of St. Peter's Columbia, Penn'a, Very Reverend Joseph A. Boll, V. F., of St. Francis Xavier's, Gettysburg, Penn'a, Very Rev. Adam Christ, V. F., of St. Mary's, Lebanon, Penn'a, Reverend Doctor Denis J. Stafford of St. Peter's, Baltimore, Rev. John T. Whelan, Secretary to Cardinal Gibbons, of the Cathedral, Baltimore, Very Reverend Michael J. McBride of St. Joseph's, Bonneauville, Pa., Rev. Charles Bart of St. Ann's, Baltimore, Rev. Casper Elbert, of Pius Memorial, Baltimore, Rev. Timothy O'Leary, S. J., Superior at Conowago, Penn'a, Rev. Francis Seubert, of St. Law-

rence, and Revs. John Hollern and Wm. Hooman of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Harrisburg, Penn'a, Rev. Theodore Meade, of St. Joseph's, Taneytown, Md., Rev. Leo Brand, S. J., of Conowago, and Revs. Jules C. Foin, of St. Joseph's, Hanover, Pius P. Hemler, of Immaculate Conception, New Oxford, Anthony Kaul, of St. Anthony's, Lancaster, and T. J. Crotty, St. Aloysius, Littlestown, Penn'a.

They all entered the sacristy, except the Bishop who remained kneeling in the sanctuary. Soon after they came out robed for the ceremonies. The Bishop retired to the place in the sanctuary provided for his throne and was there assisted to robe himself for the ceremony of blessing the church. The procession was led by Maurice Spalding the cross-bearer, followed by Francis Steffy, John Bittinger, Edward Livers, and Edward Martin as acolytes, carrying lighted candles, they being the altar boys; then came the priests, two by two, followed by the Bishop. The procession passed down the centre aisle and out the church, going around it; while the Bishop blessed the walls, the clergy sang hymns, recited prayers and chanted the litany. The same ceremonies took place inside the church, the procession preceding the Bishop up and down the aisles while he sprinkled the walls with holy-water. All returned again to the sanctuary. The ceremony of dedication is over. Bishop, priest, and people have offered the handiwork of men as a gift to their Lord and Saviour. They have prayed to him to accept, to purify and to bless this house erected to his glory. And now in the appropriate words of the liturgy: "Here may the priests offer Thee (God) sacrifices of praise. Here may the faithful people fulfill their vows. Here may the burdens of sin-

ners be removed, and the faithful who have fallen by sin, be restored to grace."

Bishop and priests are now robed for the Pontifical High Mass. The Bishop is the celebrant, Fr. Russell the assistant priest, Fr. Foin the Deacon and Fr. Christ the Sub-Deacon of the Mass, Frs. O'Leary and Elbert are the Deacons of Honor, while Fr. Seubert is Master of Ceremonies and Fr. Kaul the second Master of Ceremonies. They all leave the Bishop's throne and move to the foot of the altar. From silver censer rises the fragrance of frankincense; then is heard in clear full notes the Angel's song, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," and for the first time the sacrifice of Calvary is begun in the new church of St. Aloysius. The well-trained choir take up the glad refrain, "et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis," and fill the church with sweetest melody. There is a pause, and then a black-haired priest passes to the Bishop's throne and holding in his hand the Book of Truth bends knee and head to receive a blessing before he begins the Gospel of the day. His ringing voice has scarcely ceased to echo until from choir loft is heard the beautiful "Veni Creator Spiritus." Then there comes the youthful orator of the occasion to beg the Bishop's blessing that he may speak the words of Truth and Wisdom. The Rev. Doctor Stafford has scarcely begun his discourse before all realize that he is a great orator. He took for his text: "Go forth and teach All Nations, and behold I am with you until the end of the World." The eloquent preacher in beautiful language, with graceful gesture, and unanswerable argument portrayed the unity, universality and truth of the Catholic faith. Her opponents died, but the Catholic Church for twenty centuries lived to sing a requiem over their graves. She has met in battle array em-

perors, kings, princes and nations, that no longer live, save in history, while she has conquered and survives them all. No human power aids her in the cause of her faith—and yet all countries and people are subject to her dominion, for she is the Mother of Truth, the Teacher of Morals, the only recognized Interpreter of God's Word. Her strength is in her unity, and her catholicity. She began with God and will live as long as God needs her service. Her faith and doctrines are the same to-day as they were yesterday, and they will continue unchanged until time shall become eternity. He referred in beautiful words to the dedication of the new church. All who heard him sound his praise, and whether of his faith or not, were charmed by the beauty of his diction and his manner of speaking. The sermon being finished, the services were resumed. Soon is heard the soft notes of a tinkling bell when from the choir sounds forth the appropriate words "Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth, the heavens and the earth are full of thy glory!" All is silent now. Every knee and head is bent as sacred hands hold aloft the Consecrated Host. For the first time within this now sacred place the people adore their Lord and God! The last "Dominus Vobiscum" has been said. Then the Rt. Rev. Bishop, holding his shepherd's crook and arrayed in all the insignia of his sacred office, turns from the altar towards the people, and in clear ringing notes sings forth, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" to which the choir responds "from henceforth, now, and forever." Then with uplifted hands he gives the kneeling congregation the pontifical blessing. He then returns to his throne and unrobes, afterwards the procession leaves the sanctuary and the morning exercises are over.

The evening service began at seven o'clock. The contrast

between the exterior and interior of the church was more apparent than in the morning.

Without, the ground is covered with pure snow ; within, the scene resembles a summer garden. For weeks loving hands have guarded bright flowers that they might adorn with beauty the new church, and to-day they have brought their offerings of love. In the midst of Winter natural flowers,—roses and lilies,—mingle their bright colors upon the altar and fill the new House of Prayer with their fragrance, while hundreds of bright lights, beautifully arranged, add to the grandeur and glory of the occasion. The Pontifical Vespers were sung with unusual melody. The Bishop was the celebrant, Fr. Boll assistant priest, Fr. Foin Deacon, Fr. Hemler, Sub-Deacon, Frs. Kaul and Christ, Deacons of honor. As the echoes of the last psalm died away the Rt. Rev. Bishop ascended the altar steps and in a sitting position, clad in his robes of office addressed the people from his chair. He said that he had reason to congratulate the congregation of St. Aloysius upon the completion of their beautiful church. That it was a great pleasure for him to be present ; that they had done a great work during the past year, that their good works were manifest ; and that he returned to them his sincere thanks. He said they had one of the nicest churches in the Diocese, that it was a gem. He referred to the fact that Pontifical Solemn Mass had been said for the first time in Littlestown to-day. He spoke in praise of a life of virginity, and said that virgins could sing a song in Heaven that none others could sing, because they were virgins. That the ceremonies of the church are the drapery of Revelation. He said that many persons are opposed to the Catholic Church because they do not examine her doctrines ; many because faith is wanting on

their part. He said faith is the assent of the mind to a doctrine we cannot see and prove. It is a divine gift given by God to those who are worthy to receive it. He referred in the highest terms to the "learned preacher of to-day" (Fr. Stafford); that he had graphically and learnedly maintained the true doctrine of the Catholic Church. He said people would consult the best lawyers on the construction of a State law, and yet they take their individual interpretation of the divine law, not inquiring from those who ought to know how to interpret it—the Catholic Church. God said to his apostles, "Go teach all truth, and the Holy Ghost will overshadow you." How could they teach error? There could have been no mistake of doctrine and therefore no error to reform in the 16th century. That Catholic Rome is the seat of learning, of the arts, of painting, music, sculpture and oratory. The exercises closed with solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Nothing that ever occurred in Littlestown can compare with the magnificence and grandeur of this day's ceremonies. The church was well filled at both the morning and evening service.

The music was beautiful beyond description. Lambilotte's Mass in D was sung. Professor Nugent, the organist of St. Ann's Baltimore, presided at the organ during the morning service. Professor Anthony J. Smith, the regular organist, had charge of the choir. Walter Lefever was the violinist, Dr. E. K. Foreman, accompanied on the flute, and Dr. John W. Hickey played the cornet and Ithriam Swartz the bass-horn. The choir was composed of Misses Emma Shorb, Hellen Kuhns, Mary C. McSherry, Sallie Martin, Mary A. Spalding, Sallie Weaver, Mrs. Anna Livers, Mrs. Sarah Bittinger, E. K. Foreman, Wm. Weaver, John Foreman, Harry Martin, Harry Wea-



ver, and Theodore Eline, the regular singers. They were assisted by professor Nugent, of Baltimore, and Miss Julia Wadsworth, of Emmitsburg.

The solos were "Quoniam," "Crucifixus" and "Benedictus," by Prof. Nugent, "Kyrie," by John Foreman, "Agnus Dei," bass by Harry Martin, tenor by Wm. Weaver. Miss E. Shorb sang "Christe," "Et in terra" and "Et incarnatus," as soprano, Mrs. Livers, "Bonæ voluntatis" and "Benedictus," soprano, Miss Kuhns, tenor solo "Benedictus." The offertory was by Verdi, "Jesu Dei Vivi," sung by Mrs. Livers, Misses Shorb, Wadsworth and Prof. Nugent. The choir and school sang, at the end of the Mass, "We Praise Thee, O Lord. Professor Anthony J. Smith presided as organist at the evening service. The usual Vespers were well rendered. The hymn was "Vivat Pastor Bonus." Every detail of the exercises was well executed and the chanting of the litany by Fr. Bart received favorable comment. The occasion was a happy one for the Catholics of St. Aloysius Church.

Their building is an ornament to the town, and cost about \$20,000. May the prayer addressed to God at its dedication be granted: "May the unvanquished cross be on this enduring threshold. May the portals be sealed with the inscription of thy grace, and through the multitude of thy tender mercy may those who visit this house have peace with plenty, sobriety with moderation, and affluence with compassion. May all disquietude and misfortune be far removed from this place. May want and pestilence and disease and weakness and every attack of evil spirits be always dispelled at thy coming: that the grace of thy visitation, abundantly bestowed on this place, may abide within all the boundaries and in all parts of this house, \* \*

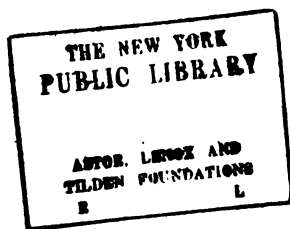


PAROCHIAL RESIDENCE.





PAROCHIAL RESIDENCE.



may be always here the gladness of peace, the grace of hospitality, the abundance of frugality, the reverence of devotion and the plenitude of salvation. And when thy holy name is invoked, may the abundance of all good things ensue, and may the assaults of the wicked be put to flight. May we deserve to have with us the angel of Peace, of Chastity, of Charity and of Truth, to guard, to protect, and to defend us always from all evil."

## THE BEAUTY OF THY HOUSE.

## I.

Like soaring prayer, in golden glory gleam  
 Three crosses, from fair Gothic spires upspringing,  
 Faith's sign, sun-kissed, the world and heaven between,  
 A "Sursum Corda" to earth's lowness bringing.  
 And hearts are lifted up in joy to-day,  
 For He, whose troth is pledged to be alway  
 With men until the utmost bound of time,  
     A new-built altar throne  
 Ascends, love-moved, to be the Guest Divine,  
     Emmanuel, our own !  
 From belfry tower a summons glad is ringing,  
 And we, responsive to its sweet call, come  
     To greet the Dedication of Thy Home.  
     Amid the mystic singing  
 Of unseen angel choirs, whose anthem notes  
 Of praise and thanks reverberate through space,  
     A melody of jubilation floats  
     Throughout the Holy Place,  
 Whilst softly swells from soulful organ's tone,  
 In hallowed sweetness up to Heaven's throne,  
 The Gloria's rapture-song, exultant cry  
 Of hosts celestial heard in Bethlehem's sky.  
     "Gratias agimus tibi,"  
     We give our thanks to Thee,  
 For thy great glory, God most high !

## II.

With holy rite and consecrating prayer,  
Anointed hands have blessed Thy dwelling-place,  
Upraised by loving hearts, whose crowning grace  
Of joy and hope fulfilled, will be to share  
Thy Sacramental Presence here, till done  
Life's service, and the unveiled vision won  
And seen,—more clear to beatific view  
Than crystal light, whose radiance passes through,  
And bright revealing, as sunbeams stealing  
Through jewels' hearts, the windows' mellowed glow.  
The rays fall soft, on host aloft,  
And emblemed chalice, opal-gemmed, below, —  
Devotion's symbols that beguile  
The soul to thought, awhile  
Soft footsteps follow down the aisle  
That leads by Mary's, Joseph's hallowed shrine,  
Unto Faith's second Calvary divine,  
The altar of love's sacrifice  
Whose offering can alone suffice  
For sin, and man upraise to heights sublime.

## III.

Thrice holy ground Thy Temple rests upon,  
With three-fold benedictions consecrate ;  
It bears a century's past of faith, begun  
By champions of God's Word, who now, elate  
With joy, smile down from Heaven's eternal dome  
On those who strive to follow where they led,  
To build on Charity's broad base, Truth's home.  
O ! softened chord of tender melody, ye dead,  
Who in our grateful thought forever live,  
As minor tones but sweeten harmony,  
A heart-deep note of requiem we give  
For you, who years ago found resting place  
In this, God's Acre once, whose hallowed grace

Remains e'en now,—as incense when the light  
Of Benediction's gone, still hovers near  
The Tabernacle,—so thy memory dear.  
From noble past, the present church expands ;  
Perhaps the future great, with strengthened hands  
And widening powers, of loftier fanes may tell  
Than this of ours—to grow is ever well,  
If lowly hearts and simple faith, apace,  
Give life to outward show of grandeur's grace.

## IV.

“Ad majorem Dei gloriam,” the crest  
Of saints, on golden-lettered corner-stone  
To cross-crowned point of towering steeple :—  
“Ad majorem Dei gloriam,” carol blest,  
“All for thy greater glory” glad intone  
Accordant hearts of pastor and of people.  
Saint Aloysius, this the ringing song  
That made thy pure life's music clear and strong ;  
Dear patron saint, perpetuate thy care  
And loving blessing on this House of prayer.  
Henceforth 'twill be a blessed Nazareth  
Of peace, where sin and sorrow, life and death,  
May solace find, whose door will e'er unclose  
To those who knock, though bring they joys or woes.  
Here wait a laving font for child new-born ;  
A nuptial blessing on the bridal morn ;  
A priestly power to pluck away sin's thorn ;  
A torch of Faith whose friendly light will gleam  
Across the coffin-lid till death shall seem  
A sweet fulfillment of Hope's perfect dream.

The closing psalm of solemn Vesper-song,  
“Laudate Dominum,” in chorus strong  
Re-echoes through the vaulted aisles,  
Whilst slowly the procession files



From incense—clouded altar-steps away ;  
Sweet canticle of praise, forever stay  
Within our souls, the keynote of Life's day !

MARY CATHARINE MCSHERRY.

DEDICATION OF ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH,  
LITTLESTOWN, PA., Jan. 25th, 1893.

## APPENDIX.

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### NAMES OF PRIESTS WHO ATTENDED ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH.

James Pellentz, 1784-1800.	Adam Britt, 1822.
Stanislaus Cerfoumont, 1791-1804.	Wm. O'Brien, 1824.
Paul Dominic Ertzen, 1791-1793.	Michael Dougherty, 1828-1843, 1854-1855.
Francis X. Brosius, 1792-1804.	C. Paul Kohlman, 1828-1835.
Demetrius A. Gallitzin, 1797-1799.	Ferdinand Helias, 1834-1835.
Lewis De Barth, 1804-1828, with intermission.	Nicholas Steinbacher, 1839.
Nicholas Mertz, 1803-1805, 1826-1829.	Milesius Gibbons, 1847-1849.
Francis Roloff, 1808-1810.	J. Roger Dietz, 1843-1849.
Adam Marshall, 1817-1819.	F. X. Kendeler, 1843-1845.
Mathew Lekeu, 1817-1843.	George Villiger, 1855-1856, 1879-1882.
Maximillian Rautzan, 1818.	F. X. De Neckere, 1849-1854, 1857-1859, 1861-1879.
Vincent Phillip Mayerhoffer, 1819.	Ernestus Reiter, 1856-1858.
P. J. Dwin, 1822.	Peter Manns, 1859-1863.
	Ignatius Renaud, 1882-1884.
	J. J. Gormley, 1884-1885.
	T. J. Crotty, 1885.

## PEW HOLDERS, APRIL 1st, 1845.

## PEW. LEFT CENTRE AISLE.

- 1 James McSherry.
- 3 Henry Spalding.
- 5 Pius Sneeringer.
- 7 John Shorb.
- 9 Jacob Rider, Jos. Rider, Jr.
- 11 Jno. Rider, And. M'Sherry.
- 13 Patrick McSherry.
- 15 Edward McSherry.
- 17 Wm. Adelsperger.
- 19 Wm. Staub.
- 21 Thomas Simpson.
- 23 Jacob Baumgardner (Md.)
- 25 George Gouger.
- 27 John McSherry.

## PEW. RIGHT CENTRE AISLE.

- 2 Jacob Baumgardner.
- 4 Joseph Fink.
- 6 Henry Hemler.
- 8 Sebastian O'Bold.
- 10 Dr. Jos. A. Shorb.
- 12 Dr. Jos. A. Shorb.
- 14 Jacob Becker.
- 16 Frank Budy.
- 18 Samuel Weirick.
- 20 John Rinedollar.
- 22 George Groft.
- 24 Lewis Elliot.

26 Jacob Crouse.

28 Jeremiah McSherry.

## PEW. RIGHT SIDE AISLE.

- 1 Peter K. Noel.
- 2 Andrew Little.
- 3 Mrs. Grace R. Smith.
- 4 Wm. Lansinger.
- 5 Jno. J. Topper,
- 6 Mrs. Gulden.
- 7 ——— Goulden, J. Klunk.
- 8 Mrs. Wm. (Mary) Shriver.
- 9 Sam'l Weirick, Wm. Rider.
- 10 Jacob Marshall.
- 11 Joseph Riffle.
- 12 George Becker.
- 13 Anthony Wivel.
- 14 John Bolin.

## PEW. LEFT SIDE AISLE.

- 1 Michael R. Nusser.
- 2 Ellen and Mary Guinn.
- 3 John Orndorff.
- 4 John Eline.
- 5 Jacob Orndorff.
- 6 Vacant.
- 7 Alex Shorb.
- 8 Nicholas Chrismer.
- 9 Vacant.

- |    |                         |    |                   |
|----|-------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 10 | Michael Fuhman, Vincent | 12 | Valentine Ulrick. |
|    | Pecker.                 | 13 | Henry Weaver.     |
| 11 | Jacob and Lawrence Fox. | 14 | E. Heidler.       |

## PEW HOLDERS, 1853.

## PEW. LEFT CENTRE AISLE.

- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 1  | Jacob Baumgardner.   |
| 3  | Henry Spalding.      |
| 5  | Joseph L. Shorb.     |
| 7  | Wm. McSherry.        |
| 9  | Francis Eline.       |
| 11 | Joseph Rider.        |
| 13 | Jno. Eckenroth.      |
| 15 | John Else.           |
| 17 | Patrick McSherry.    |
| 19 | Mrs. A. Wilt.        |
| 21 | Peter R. Noel.       |
| 23 | Jacob Hart.          |
| 25 | Mrs. Jacob Orndorff. |
| 27 | Valentine Ulrick.    |

## PEW. RIGHT CENTRE AISLE.

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 2  | Joseph A. Shorb.    |
| 4  | Joseph Fink.        |
| 6  | Henry Hemler.       |
| 8  | Sebastian O'Bold.   |
| 10 | Alexander C. Shorb. |
| 12 | Mrs. Wm. Gulden.    |
| 14 | John Budy.          |
| 16 | Peter Orndorff.     |
| 18 | Wm. Kuhns.          |
| 20 | George Hemler.      |
| 22 | John Rider.         |
| 24 | Wm. Lansinger.      |

- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 26 | Jos. Arentz.         |
| 28 | Barnabas Aumen.      |
| 29 | Odd pew. M. Fuhrman. |

## PEW. LEFT SIDE AISLE.

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 5  | Andrew McSherry.    |
| 6  | Josiah Baumgardner. |
| 7  | John A. Eckenrode.  |
| 8  | John Glassen.       |
| 10 | David Goulden.      |
| 11 | Wm. Staub.          |
| 12 | John Bolin.         |
| 13 | Andy Chambers.      |

## PEW. RIGHT SIDE AISLE.

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 1  | John Orndorff.     |
| 2  | Jacob Weirick.     |
| 3  | Wm. McSherry.      |
| 4  | John Burke.        |
| 5  | Mrs. Mary Shriver. |
| 6  | — Bushey and Fink. |
| 7  | Wm. Rider.         |
| 8  | Lewis Norbeck.     |
| 9  | Wm. Goulden.       |
| 10 | Charles Weirick.   |
| 11 | Jacob Althoff.     |
| 12 | Jacob Baker.       |
| 13 | Jacob Klunk.       |
| 14 | Jos. Riffle.       |

## LETTER TO CATHOLIC MIRROR, BALTIMORE.

LITTLESTOWN, PA., April 5th, 1868.

*To the Editors of the Mirror:* Although not a regular correspondent of your truly interesting and worthy paper, yet I hope it will not be out of place for me to make a few remarks on the progress of our Catholic schools. Our school has been opened the past year, and the good proceeding from it is most remarkable. Instead of having the little ones running the street exposed to the great dangers of the age, we have the advantage not only of having them taught the arts and sciences of the world, but that all-important science, our holy religion!

Our congregation is attended by the Rev. Fathers, S. J., from the congregation of the Sacred Heart, Conowago, and we have Mass once a fort-night, consequently our children have not the advantages which those of the city have. Yet under the wise guidance, undaunted zeal, and untiring efforts of our beloved Pastor, Rev. Father De Neckere, assisted by the worthy teacher Miss Mary Wilson, we witnessed on last Sunday one of the most beautiful and edifying ceremonies that ever took place in our little church. The children have been preparing for First Holy Communion, and on Sunday were permitted to approach the Holy of Holies. The great devotion and devout attention with which the children received their Loving Saviour showed that they were sufficiently instructed and knew well whom they were about to receive. First the boys with lighted tapers in hand, denoting their true faith, received, and were followed by the young ladies robed in white. Indeed all were edified and sensibly affected by the great attention of the children as well as the animated and instructive discourse of our esteemed Pastor. The order of the afternoon ceremonies was of a most

interesting nature. First the boys proceeded to the altar where the renewal of the baptismal vows was read by Richard McSherry, and each in presence of the whole congregation, made a most solemn declaration of faith and renewal of sacred baptismal vows. Then passing in procession around the church and arriving at the altar of our Blessed Mother, one of the young ladies, (Miss Annie Steffy) in the name of all of her companions, made a most beautiful act of Consecration, offering their pure young hearts to our Queen and Mother ever ready to assist the needy. Then followed the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, so calm and beautiful! The swelling notes of the organ, and the whole choir, led by our former organist, Professor Smith, indeed all, seemed to partake of that glorious spirit suitable for the anniversary of that triumphant ascent of our Divine Lord into Jerusalem. In conclusion I would say our people owe a just debt of gratitude to the Rev. Fathers whose great zeal and persevering efforts established those schools in our midst, and although they met with some opposition from the few who did not know their real value, we are happy to see that even those seeing the good results, are becoming the supporters of that which they are beginning to see will go far to improve Catholic school instructions. AMICUS S.

NAMES OF THE FIRST PUPILS OF THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOL OPENED  
NOV. 18, 1867.

BOYS.

Jos. Bittinger.

Harry Rider.

Jos. Goulden.

Wm. Goulden.

Aloysius Marshall.

Jos. Marshall.

Harry Spaulding

Chas. Spaulding.

Wm. Spaulding.

Wm. Spaulding,

Jas. Spaulding,

} of John.

} of James.



Annie Eline.	Jennie Kuhns.
Mollie Eline.	Maggie Steffy.
Jennie Eline.	Annie Steffy.
Kate Fink.	Lizzie Kuhns.
Jennie Fink.	Martha Kuhns.
Margaret Wyman.	Hellen Kuhns.
Maggie Goulden,	Laura Long.
Laura Goulden,	Mary Long.
Sallie Goulden,	Mary Murrin.
Mary Goulden,	Cecelia Murrin.
Annie Bair.	Kate Ulrick.
Lydia Bair.	Mary Ulrick.
Mary Brady.	Josephine Marshall.
Amanda Resser.	Anna Marshall.
Mary Dougherty.	Sarah Marshall,
Maggie Walter.	Mary Marshall.
Mary McSherry.	Anna Staub.
Maggie McSherry.	Anna V. McSherry.
Emma Shorb,	Lizzie Rider,
Martha Shorb, on hill.	Mary Rider,
Sophia Yantis.	Emma Rider,
Mary Fox.	Sarah Rider,
Laura Saltzgiver.	Annie Rider,
Beckie Heidler.	Mary Rider,
Mary Buddy.	Lucy Spaulding,
Sarah Buddy.	Annie Spaulding,
Annie Buddy.	
Mollie O'Shannessey.	

of  
David.

of Polly.

of Peter.

of James.

TOTAL, 66.



## LIST OF PEW HOLDERS IN THE NEW CHURCH, JAN. 2, 1893.

PEW. CENTRE AISLE.		19 Joseph J. Fink, Dr. J. W. Hickey.	
1	Wm. McSherry.	20	John F. McSherry, James Robert McSherry.
2	Joanna Rider, Mary Eline.	21	Pius Hemler.
3	Mrs. Elizabeth Hemler, Annie Spalding.	22	Mrs. Loretto Martin, Mrs. Mary Weikert.
4	Dr. E. K. Foreman.	23	Vacant.
5	Sallie C. Steffy, Mrs. Annie Starr.	24	Aloysius Marshall.
6	Mrs. Mary Kuhns, Mrs. Anna Felix.	25	John Bolin, Ed. Bolin.
7	John W. Eline.	26	William Smith.
8	Joanna Shorb, Mrs. Mary A. Shorb.	27	Henry A. Rider, Peter Rider.
9	John A. Shorb, Mrs. Catharine Grover.	28	James Cratin, John Ulrick.
10	J. Augustus Smith, Nicholas Smith.	29	Ed. Aumen, Sylvester Aumen, B. Aumen.
11	James D. Spalding, Chas. Eckenrode.	30	Christian Welsh.
12	Wm. Kuhns, Harry Weaver.	PEW. RIGHT SIDE AISLE.	
13	James G. Spalding.	31	Joseph Livers.
14	Peter Funk, Vincent Weaver.	32	Vacant.
15	Jos. W. Bittinger.	33	Wm. McSherry.
16	Edward M. Spalding.	34	Pius P. Fink, Basil P. Fink.
17	Eli Eckenrode.	35	Vacant.
18	John Buddy.	36	Joseph Bauhaus, Charles E. Smith.
		37	George Sneeringer, Andrew Kuhn, Jr.

38	Ed. Kuhn, Andrew Kuhn, Sr.	53	Vacant.
		54	Vacant.
39	James Donohue, J. Adams.	55	Ed. Groft, George W. Steffy.
40	William Weaver.		
41	Joseph Eckenrode.	56	Frank I. Eline, John H. Eline, Wm. Eline.
42	Peter Gouker, Aaron Else.		
43	Peter Neiderer, John Weiman.	57	Sarah Rusher, Olivia Classon.
44	Mrs. Margaret Fox, Levi Murrin, Aloysius Fox.	58	Joseph Kuhn, Oscar Gouger,
45	Frank Deitz, John Cretin.	59	Joseph Anthony.
46	Harry and Howard Spalding.	60	Frank Smith.
		61	Augustus Matthews.
47	Amanda Nace, Henrietta and Harriet Goulden.	62	William Anthony and — Breighner.
48	Vacant.	63	Peter Grau.
49	Vacant.	64	Vincent Eckenrode.
50	Vacant.	65	Charles Bolin.
51	Anthony J. Smith.	66	John E. Lingg.
52	Harry Buddy, Mrs. Mary A. Blocher.	67	Samuel Reineman.
		68	Hiram Gross.

---

In addition to the description of the church, as given on page 26, add that it was approached by broad high granite steps, guarded with iron railings. Over the entrance was the choir. The walls were about 18 feet high, and in the ceiling was a circle surrounded with plaster angel heads. The walls were white, and without ornament except the stations, which were framed pictures. There were three aisles. The Sanctuary was about

15 feet deep and 40 wide. The centre altar was white and gilt, on each side were wooden pillars upon which kneeling angels were placed. Two angels also guarded the tabernacle. The altar picture was an oil painting 5 by 7 feet of the Crucifixion. On the wall within the arch of the sanctuary were oil paintings of St. Aloysius and Blessed John Berchmans. The altar was approached by three steps, and was high, plain yet chaste; under the altar was a large gilt form of Christ in the tomb which was enclosed with glass, and opened to view on great festivals. To the left of the main altar was the Blessed Virgin's, upon which stood a gilt statue of the Mother of God. To the right on a pedestal stood a marble statue of St. Joseph, while in the sanctuary was a statue of St. Aloysius. Back of the sanctuary were the sacristy, library, and priest's room. The church was lighted with lamps, and for many years heated by stoves, in later years by a furnace.

During the Corpus Christi processions at Conowago, the members of St. Aloysius congregation always took part.

About twice a year German sermons were preached.

We had Benediction after late mass and also in the evening. During Holy Week the services began Wednesday evening. Fr. Deneckere and Mr. Smith alternated in singing the Lamentations, etc. During the month of May he would read the May prayers and give some instruction; and in his absence the congregation would assemble on week days in the evening, when some one would say the prayers and read the selection for the evening, and the choir would render suitable music. On occasions of funerals the priest, accompanied by the altar boys bearing the cross, lights, holy water, and censer would go to the church gate to meet the funeral procession. Another custom

was to bless the throats of the congregation on the feast of the Purification. On occasions of First Communion the boys and girls would go in procession in the church and renew their baptismal vows at the font and altar. It was customary for the boys to take the name of Aloysius, and the girls that of Mary, in Confirmation. In Lent some member read the "Stations" on Fridays. For many years it was, and is yet, customary to toll the church bell to announce the death, or funeral of any member of the congregation. Mrs. Catharine Grover had charge of the altar and church for over forty years; for the last twenty of that period she was assisted by Miss Mary Eline who now has charge of the altar.

In 1886 a fine representation of the stable of Bethlehem was a feature of the Christmas decorations.

John F. McSherry collects the pew rents, and George W. Steffy is the bell ringer and sexton, (1893.) The first baptism in the new church was that of Genevieve Catharine, daughter of James R. and Elizabeth C. McSherry, Jan. 27th, 1893; and the first funeral that of Mrs. Margaret Nace, aged 94 years, who was buried Monday, Jan. 30th.

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